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FIVE CENTS.

NEW ORATORICAL LEAGUE.

Nebraska Students Take Active Steps to Throw Off Their Former Restrictions.

At a recent meeting of the local oratorical association a committee was appointed for the purpose of corresponding with like associations of the Universities of Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri for the purpose of organizing an oratorical league or association which should be limited entirely to state universities. The committee sent the following letter to the five universities above mentioned and has received quite favorable answers from all but one university. We print the letter in full, as it sets forth the object of the league and the causes that have led our association to take the initiative step:

To the Oratorical Association of the University of _____: The local oratorical association of the University of Nebraska has appointed the undersigned as a committee to correspond with your association and other like associations with a view looking forward toward the organization of an interstate university oratorical league. Before presenting a plan for your consideration our association wishes to set forth some of the causes which have led it to take this step in oratory. The committee believes that the experience of the University of Nebraska in the oratorical leagues of which it has been a member may chance to be the like experience, in substance, of your own university.

The University of Nebraska has been for several years a member of the Nebraska state oratorical association, and as such member it has been represented in the interstate contests for several years. Our experiences in the present leagues have been of yearly annoyance. The state association is composed of our own university and several smaller colleges with a total number of students equal to less than one-half of the enrollment of this institution. These smaller colleges invariably combine to defeat their larger competitor in all business transactions of the association. Although we have won the state contests for three successive years past, yet twice out of the three times a combined attempt has been made by the other colleges to bar out our representative because he was a member of one department or college of our university, the like of which department did not exist in the smaller colleges. Last year the climax was reached when the constitution of the state association was so amended as to bar out entirely certain departments of our university. The interstate league is based on practically the same kind of composition as our state league, and, therefore, our experiences in the former have been similar to those in the latter.

Now, the University of Nebraska wants to be in a league of like institutions. It wants to compete with institutions having like interests and developing like qualities in students. We believe that the state universities and smaller denominational colleges do not possess like interests nor develop like qualities in their students, and we believe that in no phase of student life is this more evident than in that of public speaking. The state university develops one kind of oratory, the denominational college quite another. The

one develops more of the elocutionary, the ministerial style; the other the convincing, matter-of-fact, argumentative style. The one is more theoretical and, we may even say, more superficial; the other more practical. The day has come when we want practical, every-day, powerful speakers; in a word, we want the polished debater, not the polished elocutionist. And for this end we want a league of institutions that will develop not "college oratory," and we believe that a league limited to state universities only will better work for these objects.

Therefore, with these thoughts in mind, the oratorical association of the university suggests the following plan:

1. That a league be organized between the six state universities of Minnesota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska.
2. That the league be known as the Interstate University Oratorical League.
3. That the object of this league be the promotion of genuine, practical oratory in public speaking.
4. That the league should in no way discriminate in favor or against any college or department of any of the six cosmopolitan universities; that the league be as broad as are the institutions composing it and that any regularly matriculated student of any institution in the league be given the privilege of entering a contest.
5. That, for the consideration and adoption of a constitution and organization looking forward toward these ends, one delegate be elected from each of the above named universities, who shall meet other delegates at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion, S. D., on December 15, 1899.
6. That, if possible, this organization be so perfected as to enable the proposed league to hold a contest in May next spring.

We hope that your association will consider this matter of importance and act promptly, because the time is short if any results can be hoped for this year.

As soon as action can be taken by your association, please report such action at once. Very respectfully,

A. C. LEE,
R. C. ROPER,
GEO. R. WILBUR,
Committee.

SENIOR CLASS MEETING.

The senior class met Friday in the chapel with about seventy members present. President Thorne called the class to order and took up the business at once. The committee on photographs reported the rates they had been able to secure, but no action was taken. When the question of class insignia was brought up various ideas were advanced. R. C. Roper wanted something original. He favored the whole class wearing pins and caps. The class finally decided upon the former.

The nominating committee's report was then read. Paul Weeks, who was nominated for the position of editor-in-chief, withdrew his name. The withdrawal was accepted. G. W. Kline was then unanimously elected to the position. The nominations of the committee for business managers, C. M. Funk and D. J. Adams, went through without a dissenting vote. The class moved to give them absolute control of the business management. In the place of a board of associate editors an advisory board was chosen to assist Mr. Kline in the selection of assistant editors. Miss Laura Stratton, H. J. Theobald and C. W. Jones were appointed by the chair as the advisory board.

SCIENTISTS WILL MEET.

Instructive Addresses to be Given on Various Subjects—A Very Interesting Program.

The Nebraska academy of science is preparing an attractive program for the coming annual meeting at the university December 1 and 2. The presidential address by Professor G. D. Swezey will be the opening exercise Friday afternoon on "The Present Status of Meteoric Astronomy."

The following papers are also announced for Friday afternoon: "Report on the Initial Work of the State Geological Survey," E. H. Barbour; "Some Phases of the Dakota Cretaceous in Nebraska," Charles Newton Gould; "Geology of Saunders, Lancaster and Gage Counties," Cassius A. Fisher; "On the Origin of Gneiss," Superintendent C. H. Gordon; "Preliminary Survey of the Mammals of Nebraska," R. H. Wolcott; "Notes on a Bibliography of the Zoology of Nebraska," H. B. Ward; "A Genus of European Flies Hitherto Not Reported in North America," W. D. Hunter; "The Tiger Beetles of Nebraska," L. Bruner; "Davenport's Statistical Methods," Ellery Davis; "A Rearrangement of the Phycomycetous Fungi," Charles E. Bessey; "Some Movements of Plants," William Cleburne.

On Friday evening in the university chapel Dr. August Rimback, who has spent several years in Ecuador, will tell of his experiences as a naturalist in that interesting and little known country.

On Saturday morning the program will be continued with the following papers: "A Simple Substitute for the Birge Net," Charles Fordyce; "Methods of Plankton Measurement and Their Comparative Value," H. B. Ward; "A Plea for the Co-Operative Study of the Fresh Water Fauna of Nebraska," H. B. Ward; "A Few Suggestions Concerning Collecting Nets," R. H. Wolcott; "Pressure and Freezing Tests of the Building Stone of Southeastern Nebraska," W. H. H. Moore; "A Brief Report on the Growth of Children in Omaha," William W. Hastings; "A New Nematode Disease of Strawberries in America," Ernst A. Bessey; "Cold Waves," G. A. Loveland; "Scarcity of Aquatic Life in Nebraska the Past Summer," R. H. Wolcott.

The election of officers and other business will follow.

THE LINCOLN BIRD CLUB.

About a year ago fifteen persons who are interested in ornithology met at the house of Dr. Wolcott and formed an organization to further their mutual interests. Members of the faculty, students, representatives from the other educational institutions from Lincoln, as well as several from the city, were included. The following officers were elected: President, L. Bruner; vice president, Dr. Wolcott; custodian, W. D. Hunter. Since that time regular meetings have twice a month been held. Each program consists of a more or less formal paper, with exhibition of specimens, by one of the members and the discussion that it leads into. Last year a committee was appointed to devise plans for a state organization of bird men. The plans have been carried to such a point that notices have been sent out for a meeting of a state organization at Lincoln on December 16.

This association has been formed and officers have been elected, through correspondence, so that at that time the members may proceed at once to the consideration of the program. The object will be to gather as rapidly as possible data that in the eventual published form will constitute a complete account of the birds of Nebraska. The state officers are: President, L. Bruner; vice president, I. S. Trostler, Omaha; recording secretary, Dr. Wolcott; corresponding secretary, W. D. Hunter, and an executive committee consisting of J. R. Bonwell of Nebraska City, Rev. J. M. Bates of Long Pine and Professor Charles Fordyce of University Place.

TRY TO IMPEACH PRESIDENT.

The university debating association held a very exciting meeting Saturday. The attempt of a majority to convict the president of certain impeachment charges, however, failed. The association was called to order at 10 o'clock by President Craft. On motion that an amendment proposed relating to the choice of judges for the preliminaries be considered by the assembly the president ruled that the notice of amendment had not been posted as required by the constitution. An appeal from the chair's decision carried by more than a two-thirds vote, but he still maintained that he was justified in refusing to put the amendment. Impeachment proceedings were at once commenced against the president, the association resolving itself into a court and jury to hear the trial. N. C. Abbott was chosen judge and Harris and Meier attorneys to represent the association. The defendant's interests were looked after by R. S. Baker and F. G. Hawxby.

Little progress had been made with the proceedings when the court adjourned for the noon hour. The trial was resumed at 1:45 o'clock. Four hours were spent in sharp discussion with no advance. Another adjournment carried at 6 o'clock, and the association met again in the chapel at 8 o'clock.

The debaters had tired of useless delay and the instructions to attorneys and judge were soon arranged. In opening the attorney for the association said that the proceedings were brought against President Craft because, under his administration, it had been impossible to get a vote on the question of the selection of judges for the preliminaries. The defense maintained that according to the constitution and by-laws of the association and the rules of order which supplemented these that the president had been justified in assuming and maintaining his position. One hour was spent in the examination of witnesses before the question went to the association, then acting as jury. The final vote stood 41 to 37 in favor of impeachment. As a two-thirds vote was necessary to convict, President Craft will retain his office.

SOUTH DAKOTA WINS.

Nebraska met defeat at the hands of South Dakota Friday by a score of 6 to 5. The game was somewhat uninteresting in spite of the score, which indicates entirely the opposite. Ringer missed his first goal of the season after Nebraska's one touchdown, thus losing the chance for a tie game. At the call of time Nebraska had the ball within one foot of the goal line. Nebraska's line did not show the same form as in the Kansas game.