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Editorial,

THOSE boys and girls, neither old enough nor sufficiently versed in the etiquette of good behavior to be called gentlemen and ladies, who use the library for a social reception room, are making themselves altogether too conspicuous. For such as they the library was not opened during the forenoons. They neither put it nor their time to a profitable use, while they do prevent others from studying. They do not seem to appreciate or comprehend the privileges they enjoy. If a word to the unwise, as well as the wise, is sufficient, we trust in the future other employment than idle gossip will occupy the time and energy of this class, at least, during those hours they spend in the library.

OUR exuberant kickers—those fellows who kick the foot-ball, we mean—thinking they have the wherewith to gain victory over the Doanites, are contemplating sending a challenge to the latter for a foot-ball contest—the game to be played at Crete, the afternoon before the literary contest. The idea is a good one. Everything that cultivates college pride, everything that unites students, unless it tend toward the formation of caste, is desirable. College rivalry is as beneficent in its results to students as mercantile rivalry is to merchants. In each case it acts as an incentive. Let that college spirit and enterprise that, this year, has taken hold and carried to a successful end so many commendable things, be welcome. It is indicative of energy, and is productive of good.

THERE are certain students in the University whose conduct, at times, is not in keeping with order and good behavior. Last Friday night after they had caused one society all the trouble they dared, they invaded the other and there carried on their nonsense and sociable. It may thoughtlessness on the part of some; youth may excuse others, but such youthful freaks and thoughtlessness can not longer be tolerated. It does not speak well for the University when her students do not show manliness nor common politeness. Nor does it set well with the better class of students to see this few bring reproach upon all. The STUDENT would urge upon the societies to enforce order in their halls. It is time for a certain crowd to learn that their rowdyism has been carried far enough.

THERE has been a tendency the present year in both societies to prepare special programmes on the life and works of an author. This is a departure from the usual society work and a very commendable one. We have no hesitation in saying that the audience is better pleased and that the class of the evening do better work than if each was left to choose his own subject. But the best result is that such programmes call for purely literary work, and this is the work by which a society should be judged. Very little time and mental capacity is needed to collect a few political statistics—a few points in favor of this party and against that,—but downright work is required to prepare a paper that must stand on literary merit alone. Essays, debates and orations that savor of midnight oil, that show care and contain thought, give lasting benefit to those who prepare, and great pleasure to those who hear them. Special programmes, as each performer expects something good of his class-mate and naturally desires that his own equal or surpass it, increases such productions. For this reason, in the future, let them be even more numerous.

THE increase in the number of those whose recitations and readings in the societies are so enjoyable and such a credit to the performers, is the best proof that anyone could ask that the students are profiting by the elocutionary drill which in the old days—and they are not so very old, either—was a lamentable deficiency of our college curriculum. Yet there is still room for improvement in the zeal with which some students take hold of this part of their course and they but poorly show their appreciation of the opportunity afforded them, who say, as we have heard a few remark, that they never looked at their lessons outside of the class and chose elocution as one of

their studies because it took no time but the morning hour of recitation! It is of course unnecessary to add that these are not reckoned among the best readers and declaimers, for there is no royal road to perfection in oratory and elocution any more than to learning, and only those who labor long and faithfully achieve even moderate success. But without any great natural gifts or even especial or moderate talent for elocution, all may learn to articulate distinctly, speak the common English so as to be readily understood, read an ordinary book aloud without mumbling over half the words and swallowing entirely a large number of them, and obtain a reasonable mastery over their own vocal organs. How few students really articulate distinctly half their words! What with chipping off the ends of syllables and "mouthing" the first part of their sentences, the King's English is shamefully treated and our ears constantly strained to catch the half-articulated words, while our imagination is not unfrequently compelled to supply a word here and a phrase there that the sentences may have any meaning whatever.

IT must eventually become one of the most perplexing problems for the educators of the youth, and none the less perplexing that a solution must be found, how to embody in the college course all the studies that, it seems, should belong there, and at the same time preserve the health and vigor of the students. That many students do break down in their course of study, that if they do not completely give up they are at least very much worn out and their vigor seriously impaired, is a matter of history. It is also a matter of personal experience with most of us, as well as a matter of history, that teachers are too prone to ask too much of students. Aside from the general work of the class-room and the text-book or books, as the case may be, we are expected to do more or less general reading. This article and that, foreign reviews, editorials and books we are referred to, and not unfrequently sufficient reading is mapped out to take the time of an additional recitation.

The average student cannot endure much longer this high-pressure system. Every year the lives of some students are sacrificed and we mourn and speak of the "mysterious ways of Providence" and those who are more heathenish quote, "Whom the Gods love die young," and so forth, while in reality Providence and Nature had very little to do with the affair except to demonstrate anew that there is a penalty for the constant violation of Nature's laws and this persistent attempt to make her entirely subordinate to, and indeed the slave of, our inclina-