

and to fraternize. The evils resulting from the existence of such organizations may be greatly lessened by a judicious exercise of good sense on the part of both the "ins" and the "outs," and therefore we do not anticipate any serious trouble in this institution.

It is customary with college editors, when entering upon their duties, to give an outline of the policy they intend to pursue. They tell how successful they intend to make the paper while under their control, what improvements in the method of teaching they intend to advocate, and how they intend to deal with the Board of Regents and the Faculty. Our policy will be to remind the students, as frequently as may be necessary, that a college paper ought to be for the students and by the students. We intend to lay particular emphasis on the phrase "by the students" because the paper should not be produced by two or three unfortunates who have been made the sin offering for the rest, and who often possess no qualifications for editorship beyond their willingness to practice, like young doctors, on their fellowbeings. It requires little less than the genius of an Addison to produce readable copy to order. Ordinary people must wait until the spirit moves before they can write. Recognizing this principle the faculty gives from two to three months in which to prepare our essays, forensics and orations. Even that length of time is often found to be insufficient: witness the Sophomore class, ever member of which failed to receive the inspiration necessary to complete his rhetorical. College paper articles are proverbially dry reading, simply because they are almost invariably written by those who "think because they must write, and do not write because they think." Let us then as students feel a personal interest in our college paper, and contribute occasionally to its columns.

JUDGING from the attendance, few students are aware that there are two debating clubs, meeting every Saturday evening in the society halls. These clubs were formed especially for the younger members of the societies and are intended to afford drill in extemporaneous speaking. The large audiences of Friday evenings often have a very peculiar effect on young debators, who, as soon as they take the floor, experience a shaking of the knees. The hands and feet become superfluous, and are constantly in the way. The mouth becomes parched, and the power of speech is an unattainable luxury. These dire calamities have by some been attributed to the co-eds, because upon every occasion in which a debator was thus affected, several co-eds were known to be in the room. This, however, may be only a coincidence, but be that as it may, new students may speak with

perfect freedom in the debating clubs, with none to molest or make them afraid. We hope that hereafter these debates will be well attended, and that every one will come prepared to take an active part. Nothing can be more erroneous than the idea some students seem to have, that to become good extemporaneous speakers they should speak on questions to which they have given no study. Only those become good extemporaneous speakers who never come to a debate without preparation. It seems to be the sole ambition of some debators to learn how to kill time with a torrent of words. Although careful preparation, even to the order of the argument and illustrations should always be made, yet we do not approve of writing out and committing the argument to memory, because while it is beneficial in the same way that essay writing is, it gives no practice in the art of impromptu speaking.

THERE are a larger number of students attending the medical department this fall than had been expected by most of those connected with the school. For years we have had a department that taught the theory and practice of agriculture, but no large number of students rushed in to this seductive course. It must seem strange to those who have orated so often and so long at the farmers institutes, and the county and state fairs, that so few should wish to prepare themselves by six years study for the healthful, independent and remunerative work of farming. It seems, however, to be a fact that the young men of the state prefer to learn how to amputate limbs rather than how to trim grape vines; and more of them care to watch the medical faculty treat cases at the Home of the Friendless than desire to see the industrial faculty treat sick hogs on the college farm. The reason of this is that the brain work forms a greater proportion of the whole amount of labor required in the medical profession than in the other. There is also more of a chance for the gratification of the ambition by studying medicine than by studying agriculture. All must recognize that it is a nobler work to cure a stubborn disease than to raise a fat pig, and one will surely be more respected by the community if he neatly sets a bone than if he has only reared a healthy crop of onions. Yet the fact remains that it is not only silly but criminal to be a poor doctor, while it is merely uncomfortable to be a poor farmer. The real reason that so many study medicine is that few young persons have the penetration to see that they are "scrubs," and hence they are absolutely unconscious of the sinfulness of their attempting to practice the healing art, while at the same time they are led on by the hope of the impossible. Let us trust that the graduates from here will do as much good and as little harm as may be.