

THE HESPERIAN

(HESPERIAN STUDENT.)

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H. P. BARRETT, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

If anything is ever thoroughly demonstrated the fact that Lincoln in general and the University campus in particular, need new walks is beyond a doubt. In spite of rubbers that buckle on, protectors of various sorts greet the passer by at almost every crossing. Now that the mud has commenced its metamorphosis into dry land, they lie high and dry like stranded barks at low tide, but to the thoughtful mind they are melancholy mementoes of a sticking unexcelled. The ashes so industriously strewn on the walks and so patiently packed by the plodding student only serve in wet weather to turn passers on to the grass. It is only consonant with the thorough character of our institution that good and permanent walks be placed at least on those paths most used by the students.

THE majority of college students who attend college to get the good of it rarely have time to devote regularly to an extensive course of reading independent of their course. Their reading must be done at odd times of leisure from other work. Yet there are some who take only one or two studies and who have time on their hands. For such the claims made by the Chatauqua Reading Circle are pertinent. For those, too, who are engaged in work which is not literary, but who do not wish to drop literary work altogether such a course of reading would undoubtedly be good. Nevertheless we feel assured that for a large part of those who commence such "courses of reading" they are almost worthless. A genuine love

for reading for its own sake is much to be preferred. With a love for reading and the ability to read any one may be independent of "Reading Circles" and every student should be thus learned.

Now that the new laboratory is drawing to a finish—on the outside—it seems appropriate to remark again on the whys and wherefores of a delay which has hurt all connected with the University. Doubtless there are contracts and contracts, and also contractors and contractors, and again there are circumstances. Making all allowances, we think the former were faulty in this case. Last Commencement the corner stone was laid, and another Commencement bids fair to roll around before the building will be ready for occupancy. With all deference to the powers that be, we think a contract could, and should, have been drawn that would have insured the completion of the laboratory long ere this. There is no reason why the affairs of an institution may not be conducted on business principles, nor can we see why the University should submit to impositions which no man of spirit and business ability would endure.

For some time past college exchanges have been agitating, among other things, the question of a change of the weekly holiday from Saturday to Monday. We have been somewhat interested in the question and more than once THE HESPERIAN has noticed it. We have watched for reports from those colleges which have adopted the Monday holidays and, though at first inclined to be very conservative, we are convinced that the change would be beneficial. On a superficial thought the advantages do not seem very extensive, but on second thought become obvious. The close of the week's work generally finds the student tired and needing rest. Saturday is therefore taken, almost as a matter of necessity, for purposes of recreation. Even those who are enthusiastic enough to devote the day to study are not in a condition to get the full benefit of their time. The next day, in the ordinary course of events, is the Sabbath and many are prevented by religious scruples from using it for study. Then comes Monday with its round of study and recitation and the student feels that, in some unaccountable way, he has not received the proper good from the two preceding days. Were the case changed the week's work would run to Saturday afternoon. Saturday evenings could then be used as Friday evenings now are; Sunday, however observed, would give rest much needed, and on Monday the student would be prepared to do justice to both studies and time for he would be fresh and vigorous instead of jaded and worn. We commend the idea to our readers, assured that once fairly considered, it will find favor.