

WE hear much concerning college spirit. Nearly everything that is good in connection with college life is attributed to college spirit; and if any one wishes to complain of a decline of interest in athletics or college organizations the most cutting charge he can make is of a decline in college spirit. College spirit is a thing which leaves a thousand pleasant memories in the remembrance of its devotees. Nevertheless college spirit seems to be giving way to a different regime—the rule of the university idea.

The typical college spirit manifests itself in various ways but in none so much as in organization. Glee clubs, athletic clubs, debating clubs and the numberless other institutions which go to make up ordinary college society find their rankest growth in those institutions which have most college spirit. One distinguishing feature of the typical university life, on the other hand, is an absence of these organizations. In a recent article from the pen of A. G. Warner, now in Johns Hopkins University, he remarked the existence of a characteristic in the students of that place which he was pleased to call "self poise." This, we take it, well describes the difference between the two systems. In the words which, most of anything we have seen, express the animus of college spirit "One man is no man." Where college spirit reigns clique is ranged against clique, society opposes society, clan clashes with clan; and the principle of inter-dependence between members of the same society is an essential adjunct to such a condition of affairs.

The university, on the other hand, elevates and cultivates the individual at the expense of organization and is so far in harmony with the spirit of the times. We think that this is one reason for the popularity of the university as opposed to the college.

There are many things in the college of our forefathers which we shall be sorry to see disappear. We are convinced, however, that the new regime is better. Some of the pleasantest memories of college life may cluster around the society organization, but that is not the question. We must ask first of all, whether our college discipline develops strong, independent character. In training for the business of a real existence we believe the university to excel the college and we are therefore glad to see the latter superseded.

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MISCELLANY.

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SYNOPSIS OF THE OPENING ADDRESS.

DELIVERED BY PROF. HITCHCOCK.

The opening address of the spring term of the University was given by Professor Hitchcock on last Saturday evening at the University chapel. The subject was "Winds and Storms." Many things were said which we are forced to omit. We give a short resume of the most interesting points.

The weather is the subject of most common remark. A conversation can scarcely be carried on without its aid and anything that may be said of it should therefore be of interest. Taking a stove to illustrate the principle of storms, we know air heated by kindling a fire in it, rises and is replaced by colder air rushing in at the bottom. When the air of any area becomes heated from whatever cause it shows the same tendency and we have practically, an immense stove. The heated air, however, rises until it finds air of a similar density and then overflows, so to speak, thus causing an increased density of air immediately outside the heated area. This will be referred to later.

The sun being the chief source of heat for us, the heated area is generally at the equator and the various trade winds may be explained by the illustration of the stove. Taking into consideration that the air at the equator has a much greater movement from west to east than that towards the north or south, it may easily be seen that as the warm current rises and flows to the north and south it will take a north-easterly and south-easterly direction. This current remains an upper current till about thirty degrees from the equator when it becomes deflected and henceforth is alternately an upper and a lower current, and constantly tends, in the meantime, to a more easterly direction around the poles.

The lower currents which move to supply the vacancy caused by the upward movement of the air at the equator assume a westerly direction and become the equatorial trade winds. Any long continued wind will, owing to this rotation of the earth, veer from north to east, to south and west through the intermediate points of the compass and winds very rarely change in any other way.

Storms may be traced to similar causes. An area of low barometer causes outside currents to rush towards a common center. Owing to the tendency of winds to change their course, as before noticed, these converging currents of air, instead of meeting, assume a circular motion around the area of low barometer. The speaker placed much stress on condensation of the moisture in the warmer currents which, giving off heat, increases the movements of air upward from the storm center. To illustrate the amount of heat held by water in a vaporous form the Professor said that the heat required to convert one quart of water to steam after it had reached the boiling point would elevate the temperature of a like amount of water 1000 degrees. What an amount of heat must be given off then, when sufficient water falls to flood Salt Creek bottoms as sometimes happens. This increase of heat tends to continue the storm and hence a storm frequently commences on a modest scale and grows to large proportions. These phenomena give sufficient data by which to compute storms and generally the predictions of the United States Signal Service are reliable.

The subject of tornadoes was next discussed and some of the most interesting parts of the address were accounts of tornadoes whose effects the speaker had seen.

Observations have been taken of late years and data has been collected extending over a long time, but it is incomplete. In the spring of 1879 was a period of tornadoes, eleven occurring in Kansas on May 30th and two in Missouri on the preceding day.

Tornadoes are almost invariably preceded by the appearance of a black cloud in the southwest followed by a similar but blacker one in the northwest. These approach generally in a northeasterly and southeasterly direction at a speed of from 70 to 100 miles per hour and, when they meet, form the tornado unless they move in exactly opposite directions. The meeting of the cold and warm currents causes the hail