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**BOTANY NOTES.**

Ernest A. Bessey, '96, now of Washington, has deposited his herbarium consisting of nearly 1,000 specimens in the University herbarium. It is especially rich in Colorado and Wyoming specimens.

The store-room of the department of botany has been removed to Nebraska hall No. 108, and is in charge of Miss Pearl Hensel, '97. All supplies are now issued to botanical students by Miss Hensel.

Professor Metcalfe has charge of the laboratory work in plant physiology and pharmaceutical botany, thus relieving Dr. Bessey of much drudgery and at the same time providing for more continuous oversight of the work.

Dr. Bessey read a paper entitled "The Morphology of the Pine Cone" before the American association for the advancement of science at its meeting in Denver in August. It will soon appear in the Botanical Gazette.

The members of the staff of the department of botany are rejoicing over the arrival of a copy of a rare work on the timber trees of the Philippine Islands. It is illustrated with 43 colored plates and contains a voluminous text. It is the work of Captain Abern of the Ninth U. S. infantry and is one of the most difficult books to obtain. Very few copies have yet reached this country.

The registrations in botany are less for general botany (1) than for this time last year, there being now 65 against 81 last year. In advanced botany, however, there is an increase, the number reaching 46 as against 35 last year. The totals are 116 for last year and 111 for this year.

**THE UNIVERSITY LIGHT AND POWER PLANT.**

This plant while under the charge of the engineering department serves the entire University or as much of it as its ability permits. The plant was established about ten years ago, and has been but little improved, and not increased at all during this period while the growth of the University has been phenomenal. The result is that the plant is entirely inadequate to meet the legitimate demands made upon it, and as a consequence a contract has recently been made with the city lighting company for current required in lighting the Library of the University. Not more than half the rooms in the several buildings are now lighted by electricity. Power is furnished for ventilation in a few instances, but the demands for power come from nearly all the departments and are but partially met.

A new plant designed under the conditions of efficiency now possible owing to the advance in electrical knowledge since the purchase of the present plant would secure much greater economy in the distribution of power and light, and new apparatus would render the service much more satisfactory. The plant is not to be considered of special benefit to the engineering departments except as an illustration of engineering practice, but should furnish power to those departments under conditions precisely similar to those made for other departments.

**ZOOLOGICAL CLUB MEETING.**

The Zoological club will meet at 8 p. m. Tuesday evening, October 8, 1901, in the Zoological library. Program:

Investigations in the laboratory during the year 1900-1901.

Caroline E. Stringer—Observations on some flatworms of Nebraska.

Robert H. Wolcott—Some new data on water mites.

David C. Hilton—The development of the liver in the pig.

Visitors cordially welcome to the Sioux Falls.

**THE SOPHOMORE HOP.**

The sophomore hop will be held November 1 at Walsh hall. It will be entirely informal and a special effort is being made to make it one of the pleasantest social events of the year.

John Hastie, '99, was in the city over Sunday. He was on his way from Wyoming to New York city, where he will continue his medical studies at Columbia university.

Frank E. Osborne, '00, spent the summer doing work and watching operations in a private hospital in Rochester, N. Y. He has returned to Omaha to continue his work in the Omaha Medical College.

Many fine additions are being made to the historical museum. Mr. Blackman has made several short expeditions over the state examining the sites of ancient villages. One recent find was an old piece of pottery supposed to be oldest of its kind in existence. Another discovery was a small bust of hemitite delicately fashioned and worn perfectly smooth by constant use. It is a relic of the aboriginal medicine man.

The Maxwell club of the Law College at its meeting Saturday night elected the following officers, juniors and seniors being equally represented: President, Mr. Schlonigan; Vice president—W. K. Williams; Secretary-treasurer—Frank James Critt—E. C. Smith; Sergeant-at-arms—Retiring president.

Representative to the University senate—Ed Smith.

A committee was appointed to make out a program for the next meeting.

**Something About Presidents.**

There is no subject in which the average American takes a deeper interest than that of the personality of the presidents. The chief magistrate is the symbol of national unity. He is the representative of every man, woman and child. He has one or more points of contact with all citizens. A majority of them have seen him or taken him by the hand, practically all have read of him, have looked on his picture and take pride in his achievements. In his personality he epitomizes the national life. He is placed before the world as the embodiment of American ideals and aspirations.

Despite the fact that we are a peace-loving people, a majority of our presidents have been soldiers. All of these have come from the army, notwithstanding our long list of naval heroes. We have never allowed a sailor to run the ship of state.

Of the twenty-five, only twenty have been elected by the people, the other five being vice presidents who succeeded to the office.

When the present term is completed the period will have extended over 116 years, a little over four and a half years to each man.

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having furnished five of the number. Of these, one from Virginia, Tyler, and three from New York, Fillmore, Arthur and Roosevelt, were vice presidents who became presidents through the death of their chiefs. Next to these states come Ohio with four, Tennessee with three, one of them, Johnson, a vice president; Illinois two, Massachusetts two and New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Louisiana and Indiana one each.

Nine of the number came from south of Mason and Dixon's line and sixteen from the north. All of the southerners held office before the civil war except Johnson. None of our chief executives have come from west of the Mississippi river.

In politics, two were federalists, five were whigs, if John Quincy Adams can be so classed; nine were democrats and nine were republicans.

Only seven held office eight years—Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Jackson, Grant and Cleveland. Five died or were killed in office, two of these, Lincoln and McKinley, being on their second terms.

The presidents have been long on neither whiskers nor names. Only eight of them indulged in hirsute concealment. Of these, Lincoln went smooth-faced nearly all of his life, but had a partial beard while president, Grant, Hayes, Garfield and Harrison had full beards. The courtly Arthur supported a side whisker, while Cleveland and Roosevelt are content with a mustache. In this connection it is worthy of note that hardly any of the number have been bald. The names of the presidents fur-

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nish a rather interesting study. The numerous Smith, Jones and Brown families have not been represented at all. Nearly all the names have been rather unusual. Ten of them ended in "n." Most of them are rather courtly and euphonious in sound, all but four, Polk, Pierce, Grant and Hayes, having two syllables or more. Only seven of the presidents had a middle initial, the second Adams, the first Harrison, Polk, Grant, Hayes, Garfield and Arthur. All the rest were burdened with but one Christian name. Of the entire number James leads with five, John follows with three, Andrew and William have two each, and George, Thomas, Martin, Zachary, Millard, Franklin, Abraham, Ulysses, Rutherford, Chester, Grover, Benjamin, Theodore has each its one. All of which reminds you that if you want your son to be president, don't load him down with initials.—Denver News.