

# The Daily Nebraskan

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THREE CENT

## COMMENTS ON CHOICE.

### The Selection of Booker T. Washington Brings Forth Favorable Opinion—An Extreme Southern View.

The report which was set on foot some time ago that the senior class of the university was divided in its attitude towards extending to Booker T. Washington an invitation to address it at the next commencement has gone all over the union and as a result newspapers have commented on the matter to no small extent. Not alone have the newspapers been concerned with giving their opinions but individuals have written personal letters to various persons connected with this institution.

The opinions vary from those expressing the greatest disgust because of the invitation extended, to those which are full of words of praise for so wise a selection. The former are without exception from persons living in the South especially Georgia. Letters have been received from eastern states in which the popularity of Mr. Washington as a recognized speaker is set forth at length. Not only in the East where the people are naturally more keenly alive to such matters is the action of the seniors attracting attention but throughout our own state. Because of the reports which were sent out from Lincoln regarding the situation a large number of people are laboring under a false impression. There is a prevailing opinion that the class was divided on this matter. This however is not so. From investigation it seems there is scarcely any objection to Mr. Washington whatsoever. At the class meeting there was not the slightest appearance of any feeling against the action of the committee which had acted. When it is borne in mind that at the most there were not more than five members in the class who had any serious objection to inviting Mr. Washington while the rest of the class was as one in its opinion it may with justice be said that no other available speaker could have been invited with such unanimity on the part of the class in extending it as did Booker T. Washington.

The two letters printed below well illustrate the two sides taken by the people of the North and some in the South. "I cannot refrain from congratulating you as class president and others who have been with you in the matter of securing Booker T. Washington to deliver an oration.—Race prejudice or any other should not deter us from recognizing ability, real merit or scholarly attainment at all times and at all places. And so I repeat I am proud to note that your class has advocated right and with such men as Roosevelt brush away the 'color line.'"

The foregoing extract is from a prominent educator in Nebraska.

The following letter shows clearly the misapprehension under which people are working. The faculty did not extend the invitation but the senior class. The gentleman from Georgia evidently thinks that the seniors feel that they have been imposed upon which is not at all the truth.

"It was with much surprise and disgust that I read in the Atlanta Constitution of the 14th that the faculty of your institution had chosen Booker Washington as commencement orator. I cannot express my supreme disgust at such action of the faculty of the University of Nebraska."

"Booker has been once too often in the White House and the insults offered our southern women because of that and similar incidents are too numerous to mention. Your (dis)honorably faculty are either blind to this fact or wish to add insult to injury on the negro question. So long as a member of the brutish race is entertained as Booker has been, though he be above the ordinary, we cannot but expect the crime which is generally punished by Mr. Lynch."

"There is no doubt that if your faculty should live where I live for one year they would treat the negro as he should be treated. Booker's school interests have suffered already from his invasion of the White House and no doubt it will suffer more in proportion as he continues such policy. The whites are much more to blame than he."

"I certainly sympathize with the senior class and our people are hoping that you will not tolerate the negro orator." "Rebel and resist it."

Your southern friend,  
W. H. All.

### MISS HOWELL RECITES AT CONVOCATION.

Miss Alice Howell instructor in elocution gave a recital at the student convocation yesterday morning. The announcement that Miss Howell would give a series of readings brought out an unusually large crowd.

The first reading was a long and difficult selection by W. H. Murray entitled "The Honor of the Woods." The piece consists of an animated description of a boat race on the lake, between six contestants, three of whom are professionals, and the remainder are hunters and guides, who as typical men of the woods struggle to maintain their supremacy with the oar.

Miss Howell interpreted the selection very effectively, bringing out strongly the details of the thrilling contest at the finish. The impersonation of the old trapper was beautifully done.

She responded to a liberal applause with "Life's Mirror" as an encore.

A. A. Miller, 98, is making an extended visit with his parents in the city.

## WORK IN CUBA.

### J. L. Lytle Tells of His Duties With the Military Engineering Service—A Trip to Southern Cuba.

In a letter to E. M. Swain, written on board the "Conception," enroute to Santiago de Cuba, James L. Lytle, '00, tells of the nature of his work in that island. Owing to its general interest the letter is reproduced in part here.

Your letter reached me a few days ago just as I was leaving Havana for Santiago by the south coast. I am on my way to Santiago, the place where our President and his Rough Riders made their name. I go there to make a survey and take topography of the roads in that province for the military service. I have some men with me and there I will draw some non-commissioned officers from the U. S. Regular cavalry stationed there. I will have quite a party when I get them organized. I expect I shall be over in this end of the island for a couple of months at least.

Mr. Sargent received the package all O. K. and I got my Uni colors. I have them fastened upon a couple of class canes on my wall.

I had a pretty good time Xmas—went out in society considerable. But I guess for the next couple of months I will be confined to a blue shirt, campaign hat and a cavalry outfit. Our party will have a detachment of cavalry detailed with it and we will live on government rations and be tough in general.

I have been on this coasting vessel three days now and it will be one more before we reach Santiago.

During the first part of the trip we were almost all Americans but now they are all Cubans but about four of us. We have one of the subjects of Edward VII on board and he is certainly a cockney Englishman. We did have an Irish steam fitter from Pittsburg who was a regular wit but he got off last night.

### STUDENT RECITAL.

The seventh recital of the season was given by the students of the university school of music in Memorial hall last night. A large and very appreciative audience was present and heartily applauded the different productions. The following program was rendered:

Piano Solo—Sonata C minor Op. 10 No. 1. Beethoven, Allegro molto.

Maragret Whedon  
Soprano Solo—"Traditional Ballad" Arr. C. V. Stanford, Aria "O, Thou Beloved," Gluck.

Nelly Lally  
Piano Solo—Sonata D Major Op. 28, Beethoven, Allegro.

Edith Compton  
Contralto Solo—"Cradle Song" Kate Vannah.

Flora Belle Steiner  
Piano Solo—Nocturne F flat Major

Op. 27 No. 2. Chopin.

Lulu Walker  
Soprano Solo—"Tell me, my Heart," H. R. Bishop.

Elma Marsland  
Piano Solo—Gondoliera, Liszt.

Edith Shedd  
Soprano Solo—"Come we'll Wander," Peter Cornelius; "Serenade to Zanetto," Massenet.

Charlotte Whedon  
Piano Solo—Andante and Variations F minor.

Winifred Howell  
Piano Solo—"The Dragonfly," A. Buzzi Peccia; "The Swallows," Cowen.

Catharine Agnew  
Piano Solo—Fantaise C minor, Mozart.

DEAN REESE SCORES LAW STUDENTS.

Dean Reese of the law school took occasion at last night's meeting of the class to score severely those students who had been guilty of bringing into the lecture room the obnoxious chemicals. The law room still had no inviting atmosphere and this gave the dean an incentive to those words of warning which he might otherwise have lacked. The action of the certain students in filling the building with this odor was, he said, evidence of their utter lack of honor and respect for others' rights. He further stated that were the parties who committed the deed known to him, he would not hesitate to suspend them from the privileges of the university.

Some of the students in the class who are seriously opposed to any jokes of this nature have decided to investigate the matter and bring the suspected parties to account before the class authorities. One of the students said, last night, that there was considerable circumstantial evidence against two members of the class already and that the class acting as a court would soon try them. The outcome of this will doubtless be very much the same as the recent impeachment trial which was finally dropped after having been extensively advertised.

WISCONSIN TRACK TEAM WINS FROM CHICAGO.

Wisconsin defeated Chicago Saturday night in the indoor meet by a score of 47 to 30. The Wisconsin athletes got seven firsts and four seconds, and Chicago men took three firsts and four seconds. Four records were broken. Malony for Chicago broke the Chicago gymnasium record in the forty yard hurdles, making the distance in 5 1-5 seconds. Bredsteen broke the record held by Bliss of Chicago and established a new record of 4 minutes 47 1-5 second. The two-mile was a Wisconsin sure thing, and Carpenter did the trick in 10 minutes 14 3-5 seconds, which not only broke the track record but the western indoor record of 10 minutes 15 3-5 seconds, by Bredsteen in the exposition last year.