

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

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WHAT IS THE MATTER?

The following has been handed to the Daily by one who is especially interested in debating and is certainly a fair statement of the real situation. Debating interests in the University of Nebraska are obviously at low tide. The small crowd which attended the two preliminaries was very discouraging to the members of the association and seemed to dampen the enthusiasm of those who were previously hopeful of student and faculty support.

There is but one cause for this lack of enthusiasm. It is due entirely to the total indifference of the student and many faculty members to debating interests. Perhaps it should not be mentioned, and yet it is a fact, that at the preliminaries there was not a faculty member present, barring of course, the judges and instructors in debating. Very few students, expecting those directly or personally interested attended the debates. Success cannot follow from such indifference. The debaters must be encouraged, debating must be given some attention, and the interstate contests must be patronized, else Nebraska can not anticipate a victorious year. There is nothing lacking in the ability of the contestants, nor in the training they are receiving, but the student body is certainly not doing its duty.

During the football season mass meetings are called and the faculty plead with the students for support. They practice yells and sing songs and cry for college spirit. Have you noticed anything of this kind during the debating season? Have the faculty members made any demonstration

CONE,
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in favor of debating? Or is it possible that debating is to be entirely subordinated to football? If this be true, we must admit that the defeats of previous years and especially of last year are to go for naught and that the University of Nebraska is to acknowledge herself defeated in the field of debate. The defeats of last year were no more severe or more overwhelming than the defeats on the gridiron in 1899-00; and yet, while every effort was brought to bear by the students to regain or lost reputation in the football world, no similar attempt has been manifest in regard to debating. The students and faculty must remember that success depends upon the part played by them in the coming interstate contests with Colorado, Kansas and Missouri.

**THE GIRLS' TOURNAMENT—
THE MATCHES AND THE
PLAYERS.**

The schedule arranged for the tournament next Friday and Saturday is as follows: On Friday night the two high school teams will meet for the first match, followed by a contest between the Omaha Y. W. C. A. and the University second team. The winners of these contests meet for the last match of the evening to compete for the tournament prize, and the right to challenge the varsity team for the possession of the samovar. Thus exciting games come the first evening. It is quite possible that these may be the best of the tournament. On Saturday afternoon is decided the fate of the samovar for the year, when the winners of the evening before face the varsity team for the crowning match. There will also be a contest for a consolation prize between the teams defeated in the first round the night before.

This year's defenders of the samovar are: Misses Miller and Jansa, forwards; Pillsbury, captain, and Towne, centers; Sly and Shields, guards.

The second team, on which much depends this year, and which will play more matches than the varsity team, consists of Miss Higgins, captain, and Craig, forwards; Riehey and Archibald, centers; and Scott, Bryan and Comstock, guards.

All the prizes for the tournament were obtained from Weintreub, importer of Antiques, and Old European Metals, New York city.

Miss Mattie Thayer, who was in school last year, is visiting among her university friends. Miss Thayer has been in Colorado for the past year doing hospital work.

M. D. Baker, a former university student but at present attending the Omaha Medical College, came down to attend the joint party given last Friday evening.

California was recently defeated by Leland Stanford university in the annual debate between those institutions. This is the third time in the last eight years.

Ohio State University has adopted the elective system in the Arts college. According to the new plan undergraduates are required to make out their schedules in June for the succeeding year. In this way all conflicts may be settled and petitions heard before September.

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