

The Daily Nebraskan

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Staff Editorials.

Nebraskan Editorships.

Tomorrow (Saturday) morning from nine to twelve o'clock the managing editor will be prepared to receive the names of those members of the sophomore and junior classes who wish to enter as candidates for next year's associate editorships on the Nebraskan staff. By arrangements with the board of control, promotions to these editorships are to be made dependent upon the quality of reportorial work done by the candidates this semester. If enough do not enter to fill the established staff positions, the managing editor is to be allowed to fill the same at his discretion. If you wish to compete report at the Nebraskan office, 203 1/2 Uni hall, tomorrow between 9 and 12.

It is hoped that when the Historical Society succeeds in getting its large fire-proof museum there will be ample room for the University museum under the same roof. The present location of the museum is dangerous to the many valuable collections therein.

There will be considerable social activity in University circles in the way of valentine parties this evening and tomorrow evening. The literary societies have set aside the usual order of programs and will devote their time to social features in keeping with the occasion. Other organizations in the University have provided suitable entertainment for themselves, and some of the churches are planning to take a hand in the general provision of festivities.

The revival of interest in debating, as evidenced by the attendance at the Senior-Junior contest Wednesday evening and the enthusiasm manifested, is indeed gratifying to those who are interested in the development of the intellectual side of University life as well as the physical. If the present spirit is maintained and the same interest shown in the coming interstate debates, there is no reason to fear that they will not receive the proper support.

Convocation Notes

Program for the Week:

Chaplain for the week, Rev. F. W. Eason.
Friday: Music.

Yesterday's Exercises:

Yesterday being the ninety-fourth anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the convocation talk given by Deputy Superintendent McBrien of the state department of public instruction, consisted of an interesting account of "Some Things Lincoln Did." Measured by what he did and wrote, Lincoln was declared to have no superior in history. His name and deeds will never be forgotten. Yet Lincoln was intensely human and did many very human things. The attempts to deify him, to clothe him and his deeds with a mantle of divinity, are all a mistake, for thereby the force of his career as an example for American youth is largely destroyed. Lincoln was four times elected to the legislature of his state and only human beings are so chosen. He gained the reputation of being the best "log-roller" in the assembly. This ability he, as one of the famous "Long Nine" of Sangamon county, used to good account in securing the change of the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield. But he had a good precedent for such trading of votes in the action of Hamilton and Jefferson during the struggle over the location of the national capital on the Potomac. And actual examples serve to show that in the much vaunted "good old days" the political actions of leaders, now most revered, were far from being above reproach, and disprove the frequent assertions that we are degenerate as compared with the "father." The truth is, we are advancing even in political life and methods; today is an improvement over yesterday, and tomorrow will be over today. Even "Czar" Reed's method of making out a quorum would hardly have been effectual in the face of Lincoln's way

of breaking one; for in 1840, the doors being locked, he and two fellow Whigs jumped through the windows of the legislative building in order to break a quorum, and thereby prevent the imminent passage of a Democratic measure. Lincoln had a marked sense of humor and used it to point an argument, but rarely to create a laugh. He first gained a national reputation through his joint debates with Douglas in 1858. His firm and unequivocal stand for principle and the future welfare of the anti-slavery cause, as opposed to his personal interests, lost him the Illinois senatorship, but at the same time laid the basis for Douglas' defeat and his own triumph in the greater contest of 1860. Lincoln's fame as an orator rests chiefly upon his Cooper Institute and Gettysburg addresses. Greeley declared the former to be the greatest speech, from the standpoint of convincing one's hearers, that he had ever heard, and he had heard some of Webster's grandest. Ingersoll, comparing the Gettysburg address with the more scholarly and elaborate effort of Edward Everett on the same occasion, pronounced Lincoln's production the work of the true orator, as contrasted with that of the trained elocutionist.

ENGLISH 12.

Subjects for Second Argument in Argumentative Composition.

The briefs for the second argument will be due Tuesday morning, March 10, at 9:30 o'clock. Special subjects will not be approved later than February 17. The following subjects are open to choice:

1. Should trade unions be compelled to arbitrate?
2. Are sympathetic strikes justifiable?
3. Should the organization known as the trust be encouraged in order to secure and maintain foreign markets for our manufactures?
4. Is profit-sharing a desirable method of remunerating labor?
5. Is the United States paying railroads an excessive rate for carrying the mails?
6. Should the government adopt an income tax, incomes under \$1,000 being excepted?
7. Should judges of the United States supreme court be appointed for fixed terms rather than for life?
8. Should the principle of proportional representation be adopted in the election of congressmen?
9. Was slavery disappearing in the border states just preceding the Civil War?
10. Does our system of education meet American conditions better than one modeled on the German system would do?
11. As a general principle should college degrees be required for admission to professional schools?
12. Was there an individual Homer?
13. Was the Roman system of provincial administration and colonization a blessing to the world?
14. Are there sufficient grounds for deriving the lungs of air-breathing vertebrates from the swimming-bladders of fishes?
15. Does the distribution of animals accord with Darwin's theory of natural selection?
16. Is the relation between individuals great enough to suggest relationship of different species?
17. Do the rays of the sun penetrate below the depth of 12,000 feet in the ocean?
18. Can rain be produced by artificial means?
19. Is the transmutation of metals possible?
20. Are the stomata of plants organs of respiration?
21. Was there an historical Arthur?
22. Socially are the so-called trusts inimical to the public welfare?
23. Was the Norman conquest beneficial to England?

M. M. FOGG.

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