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**Rinker, '00, in Philippines.**

A letter has been received at Y. M. C. A. headquarters from T. O. Rinker, who graduated from the University in 1900 and subsequently went to the Philippines to take up pedagogical work. He is at present located at Maribojos in the province of Bohol, island of Luzon. He has charge of a normal school there, besides acting in the capacity of superintendent of schools in that province. At first he had considerable difficulty in instilling into his pupils correct ideas of proper deportment in the school room. When he first entered the school room to take charge of his work he found about two hundred little tots sitting on tables and desks or reclining on the floor while they studied their catechisms. The fact that his students cherish a higher regard for the observance of frequent holidays, and evince a greater devotion for their religious duties than for their studies, has occasioned him much difficulty. Whenever there is some special mass to be celebrated they take it as a matter of course that they should attend, while their lessons are allowed to wait. Sometimes practically all the classes are absent on this account. The pupils display quite a willingness to learn, and some of them show a remarkable aptitude. Among Mr. Rinker's other duties is the instruction of a class, consisting of the rest of the faculty, in the principles of the English language. This class meets once a day and its progress satisfies all expectations. The mail service is very poor and a letter written forty miles away is just as long in transmission as one sent from New York. In his opinion, the surest way of accomplishing an educational advance in the islands is through the native teachers. If these can be acquainted with American ideas and culture, the effects of their influence will be widespread.

**Will Make It a Magazine Alcove.**

Those who noticed our item of last week, calling attention to a new reading table which was recently placed in the library, will be interested in learning that it marks the first step in what is hoped to be an entire refurnishing of the magazine alcove, with the idea of making this part of the library more attractive and giving it more exclusion from the rest of the reading room. This plan will possibly be accomplished by placing pillars and bannister rails across the north side of the alcove and affecting a screen with palms and plants. Then in the interior of this will be a gradual substitution of the weathered oak furnishings in the chairs and magazine boxes to harmonize with the new table. This table is of unusual dimensions and massiveness, is made of rich weathered oak and is perfect in the simplicity and genuineness of its design. It follows the style of the 'Arts and Crafts' furniture, from whose catalogues the design was suggested and selected by Mr. Wyer and members of the library staff. It is made by the Nebraska Planing mills of Lincoln and they have given us a most satisfactory piece of work for just about half of the prices submitted by eastern furniture houses.

**A Good Day Coming.**

(Saturday Evening Post.)  
The day will come when, thanks to the efforts of men of genius applying themselves to the enormously important work of writing textbooks, the fallacy that "learning" is a task will give place to the truth that "learning" is a pastime. The prejudice against "learning" is well founded. So-called learned men are responsible for it. So many of them are so dull and they write so dully that the average person says, naturally enough, "Heaven forbid that I should do anything to make myself that sort of bore." But if one will put aside his prejudice long enough to look into the thing he will find that the sciences hate the "learned" deadly-dull, dry-as-dust society in which they are compelled to spend most of their time, and that they long for the company of people with lightness of mind and with a disposition to laugh on the smallest possible provocation. Science is not a task-master, laden with instruments

of torture. It is a universal playmate, laden with toys and games that fascinate young and old alike. Some day we shall develop a race of writers and teachers who will show us this instead of hiding it from us. Meanwhile we shall have to put ourselves to the trouble of finding it out for ourselves.

As a splendid example of 16th century locks, those on the gates of our campus might well be preserved. They consist of a padlock, a chain, a hook, and a bar with two loops; and to lock or unlock them requires a special understanding of these details. Our attention was called to them by a professor who not long ago worked rather late in his laboratory. It was raining quite hard when he started home, and after spending fifteen minutes familiarizing himself with the lock he climbed over the gate and went on his way rejoicing.

\$3.00 COLMUTATION ticket for \$2.70 at the Merchants' Cafe, 117 No. 12th St. Students are cordially invited.

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