

The Daily Nebraskan

A consolidation of
The Hesperian, Vol. 31, The Nebraskan,
Vol. 10, Scarlet and Cream, Vol. 4.

Published daily, except Sunday and
Monday, at the University of Nebraska,
Lincoln, Neb., by the Hesperian Publish-
ing Co.

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Editorial Room U 304 1/2. Business Office,
U 211 1/2. Post Office, Station A, Lin-
coln, Neb.

Office hours of Business Manager and
Editor, 11:00 to 11:30 daily.

Telephone.....Automatic 1528
Night Telephone.....Automatic 2365

Subscription Price, \$2 per year in advance

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln,
Neb., as second-class mail matter under
the act of congress of March 3, 1879.

Individual notices will be charged for
at the rate of 10 cents for each insertion.
Faculty departmental and university bul-
letins will gladly be published free, as
heretofore.

Subscriptions for The Daily
Nebraskan are due, and all who
have not paid up will please see
the circulator as soon as possi-
ble.. Office open from 11:00 to
11:30 daily.. R. 211 1/2 Uni. Hall.

A COMMUNICATION.
To the Editor of the Daily Nebraskan:
Again the curtain rises on the dra-
matic scene of the "Cap Comedy." Freshmen have painful tremors; sophomores, on account of the recent peace amnesty, tremble like caged lions; juniors and sage seniors stand aghast and conjecture.
In Saturday's issue of your valuable paper a modern Shakespeare, "A Sophomore," eulogized the infantal efforts of the freshmen cap brawlers. This inspired "seer" is trying to show the freshmen how to "jump the life to

If you wore caps you must have done it to yourselves, cowardly and secretly, out of sight of the authorities and executors of the common law of the University. You never came out into the open and wore them like men. You disobeyed traditions. I ask you in all candor, does a secret act of disobedience nullify a law? Does an established custom fall because a simply sneaking attempt was made to "jump" it? My "Sophomore" friend, if such is your reasoning, then you must concede also that when a criminal secretly evades a law, the law becomes void thereafter. What a fallacy in the "poet's" contention. Not more than ten '08 cays were on the campus last spring and they were cowardly sneaked under the coat of the owner. The culprits knew that it was contrary to the laws of the University custom and they only dared revel in a quiet violation of the law like the thief who steals, not to be caught. Thus we see that our "Sophomores" philosophy, rightly interpreted, not only stands on a false foundation, but supports the moral wrong of criminality.

Again, he is in the air in his statement of facts. For the sake of argument, take his theory for granted that an attempt to evade this law establishes a new custom. Then the honor of establishing the freshman cap custom here falls to the present Junior class and not the sophomores. The juniors ('07) made the first attempt and the honor he claims for his class rightly goes to the class of '07 (if there be any honor at stake).

Taking the whole argument of the "Sophomore," then, in his attempt to put himself and his class right for remaining quiet under the ban of the recent "peace terms," we find that he has not only theorized falsely and spread abroad criminal doctrines, but that in his conclusion he has shifted the honors he tried to set up for himself to the Junior class.

But be all this as it may, since the sophomores are caged, there are still other powers that the freshmen must beat against. It is the sense of the two upper classes that the tradition shall not lose one mite of its force. There is not one junior who will not stand up for that sacred custom. We consider ourselves in a measure the guardian of the freshmen, but if these youths in swaddlings try to jump the stream of custom we will be on the other shore to spank them when they get across. Every junior and every

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come," but in tutoring his brother in the wonderful feat I fear our "Sophomore" friend has fallen into the filthy mire himself. Beware! lest your work die with you.

The argument of a "Sophomore" summarized is that his class has started a custom by one small violation of the common law of the University. Therefore, the freshmen should wear caps this year. Did the present sophomores wear caps last year? If they did, who saw them? Dis the public opinion of the University condone it?

senior will take it as a pugilistic challenge if the weley freshmen flaunt caps into their faces, a declaration of war that will be met with the gall and venom of abused men. **A JUNIOR.**

The five hundred Rhetoric 1 students will be examined at various points on the University campus Saturday afternoon, January 27th. The hours, as dictated by Registrar Clark, will be from 1:15 to 3:15. This is the first time in the history of the University that all Rhetoric 1 classes will be examined at the same time. The object of the new method is to give every freshman a "square deal."

Now Look Out for Watch Troubles

The cold weather is apt to harden the oil—that strains the mainspring and affects the motion.
It's the wisest thing you can do to have your watch examined at this time of the year. If... is in good order, we'll let it alone; if it needs repairing we'll do it thoroughly at a moderate price.
Few watches are cleaned and oiled as they ought to be—once a year. People usually wait until something breaks. The other way is the cheapest in the end and saves the WATCH.
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Dr. Holovtchiner On Pushkin.
Dr. Holovtchiner, at present in exile from Russia, delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on Pushkin, the founder of modern Russian literature, before the Graduate Club last Friday evening. After giving a brief account of the Russian student of today as compared to the American theme proper of his lecture.
"Up until the time of Pushkin," said he, "Russia had practically no national literature. True her court poets had produced a few poems, songs and novels, but of a minor quality, being poor imitations of the classic converted into the stilted Slavonic of court circles." With the advent of Pushkin into literature, however, Russia changed. The classics gave way to romanticism; stilted poems to musical sonnets and folk-songs, and courtly novels to short stories and the drama.
As a man Alexander Pushkin lived a varied and somewhat tragic life. Born in 1799, of a Russian nobleman, well educated, but given to dissipation, young Pushkin spent the early years of his life inside the nursery, his creole mother and nurse being his only companion. To their influence was due largely the fiery passion of his poetry and the almost inexhaustible store of folk lore so masterfully narrated by him in later life.
Through all of Pushkin's work, said Dr. Holovtchiner, there runs a vein of pathos, due mainly to the suffering and reverses of his own life. While in exile the young poet became acquainted with the works of Byron, Shakespeare, Walter Scott, Shelley, and Milton, all of whom he valued very highly. In fact, it was he who first translated the works of the English dramatist into Russian.
Pushkin was the first writer to introduce romanticism into Russian literature and later realism. Unlike the literature of the French realistic school, however, Russian realism is wholesome and healthy, avoiding the low and vulgar instincts of human life so characteristic of Balzac. As a poet, Dr. Holovtchiner ranked Pushkin with Heine and Schiller of Germany and Byron and Shelley of England, not for the substance, but for the music of his poems.
He was killed in a duel near Moscow over a Russian lady in 1839.

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