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LINCOLN, - NEBRASKA.

"HOW NEBRASKA EXCELS."

A Cutting Criticism on the Inebriety of Eastern Schools.

C. W. Bunker, the author of the following contribution, went from the University to Cornell on a fellowship obtained there in Chemistry. From there he went to New York City, serving as an assistant in the hospital at the same time he was pursuing his studies. He is still engaged in hospital work.

Dr. Bunker chose to write on inebriety expresses himself as follows: Editor Nebraskan:

I pursued the letter of B. G. Lewis in your issue of February 27. On our privilege of contact with our Chancellor we are certainly to be congratulated and I can echo every allusion printed concerning the affection and esteem in which he is and has been held by Brown men. I have known several of the alumni and find them unanimous as regards "Bennie." And he is not the only one of whom we have much reason to be proud. Still I will leave them to a worthier biographer.

But why need we go as high as the faculty for praiseworthy qualities? It is upon the student body—upon their morals especially in regard to inebriety—that I wish to sprinkle a few words of approbation.

I do not believe that I can confine myself particularly to Nebraska either in this regard, but must look upon her as a bright example of most other Western universities, colleges and schools. The antithesis is obvious.

My medical work in New York state has brought me into intimate contact with Eastern college men, especially of Cornell, two year's of whose life I have seen at Ithaca and two year's in New York City. During the latter two years as well as during my two years of hospital work here, I have seen Columbia at home, Yale on its visits, and have known men from Pennsylvania, Princeton and Harvard who are in a position to know. This merely as a qualification for an opinion.

And, you say, my opinion,—what is it? Simply this. The attitude of the student body towards inebriety and its prevalence at the above institutions are two things I have never seen and hope I never shall see or hear of at a certain University located just north of R street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Why such a thing should be true, I believe there are various reasons. The apparently inborn conservatism and mind-your-own-business attitude of the Easterner tend to prevent the knowledge of a student's waywardness reaching the ears of authority or parent, and greatly aids the "sowing of wild oats." Then again, Nebraska's hell-holes are not painted in colors so alluring to the unwary youth and they offer less immunity from detection. Most of our students come from cities or villages, small compared with those of the East, and the instincts of sobriety are probably instilled in them from youth. whereas, here, especially in the larger cities, much greater tolerance is shown for folk not "on the water wagon."

But, last and greatest of all, I believe the real reason lies in the attitude of the student body toward the drunkard. Here he is the half-fellow-well-met man. He receives at least sympathy, and usually admiration, particularly, if he be fortunate enough to secure his diploma. He is much sought after, and really popular even with the feminine contingent, and Cornell is co-educational, you know.

At Nebraska, on the other hand,—and I remember two of them of good stock, too,—he is looked at with askance, his fallings are a sore trial to his brethren and are not mentioned at length in public, our co-eds do not seek his society and, best of all, he meets with little emulation.

I do not believe the Cornhusker contains (I know the Junior annual did not six years ago) any list of clubs, illustrated principally by emblems of "booze," as do the Eastern annuals. An invitation to a sociable stag evening with such an inclusion as that of Seattle Club, "Leave your thirst at home," would arouse at least much wonder.

C. W. BUNKER, M. D., '01.

Acacia has rented a house at 1216 H street and will begin "housekeeping" next fall.

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