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HE DOESN'T APPROVE

GASS SEES NO USE IN SCHOOLS OF JOURNALISM.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED

NEWSPAPER WORK NOT TECHNICAL PROFESSION.

Action of Missouri, Wisconsin and Minnesota in Establishing Special Departments Held To Be a Move in Wrong Direction.

That schools of journalism, such as have recently been established at Missouri, Wisconsin and Minnesota are an unnecessary and unwise addition to the university curriculum is the opinion of Professor S. B. Gass of the Nebraska rhetoric department. Professor Gass speaks not only with the authority of a college professor but also with that of a writer who has had some practical experience in the work in question. He is well qualified to estimate the value of special training for newspaper work.

"I must confess," said Professor Gass yesterday, "that I am radical in my opinions of the worth of schools of journalism. I take a view in opposition to many college men and newspaper workers. I do not believe in schools of journalism as the term is now understood. Newspaper work is not a technical profession such as law or medicine. It requires not such specialized knowledge. The newspaper writer needs to know human nature, and that is a subject of the very broadest sort.

Study Humanities.

"The man who expects to be a journalist must, of course, be able to write correct English, but a school of journalism is not necessary to accomplish that. Further than the rhetorical requirement, he should have a knowledge of the widest possible range. There is nothing in the college curriculum that may not be of value to the journalist. Especially careful should be his study of the humanities—history, Latin, Greek, literature and the new humanities, political economy and sociology.

"A comprehensive knowledge of literature should be his particular aim. This is an essential requirement of any general cultural course. It is natural that it should be so. Literature is the written record of man's activities. In addition to literature, the man studying for journalism should study Latin and Greek in order to gain the exact drill which these subjects impart. He should study history, and the political sciences for the facts which he may learn as well as for the training.

"I now conduct in rhetoric 23 a course in newspaper writing and yet this class is hardly more than a class in composition. The only way for a man to gain a good newspaper style is by practice, and the college course can not offer the necessary facilities for that. For every facility that it can offer the actual office work gives many times that amount.

Not College Function.

"In any case, I doubt the advisability of a university establishing a course in journalism even if the utility should be proven. The product of journalistic endeavor is essentially something which is not the best. The newspaper writer is in the very nature of his work obliged to do things which are not the best. He must emphasize names, and he must play up the sensational. These and other requirements of good newspaper writing are not consistent with the best that

there is in literature. For this reason I doubt the wisdom of a course teaching these things in a university. In teaching good journalism the university will be teaching something which is lower than the best, and that is not within the province of the college, I believe."

HE DISCOVERS NATIVE TOBACCO

Old Nebraska Man Makes Valuable Find in North Dakota.

Gilmore, a Nebraska graduate in the class of 1907, has made a discovery of considerable economic value while doing work on his master's thesis in botany. Mr. Gilmore chose for his advanced degree to work up a paper covering the use of plants by the Indians. In this connection he has visited the Indians of the Nebraska and Dakota reservations and has collected much data.

In a reservation in North Dakota he found an old Indian, 73 years of age, who was producing native tobacco. Samples of the plant were taken and Mr. Gilmore now proposes to reproduce the tobacco.

The discovery of a native tobacco that can be grown in the Dakotas and Nebraska may have an important economic value. It has always been known that the Indians of these states used many native plants about which the white men knew nothing. These secrets of utility have been lost as the advancing civilization led the younger tribesmen to adopt the white man's ways. The fact that native tobacco could be grown in these western states had died with other Indian knowledge and the discovery by Mr. Gilmore is therefore of great interest.

FIRED BY INDEPENDENT CUBANS

Nebraska Graduate Loses Experiment Station Job.

According to a letter received from William T. Horn, 1898, that Nebraska graduate has resigned his position as chief of a department of the Cuban experiment station. His resignation was requested, and the action taken by the Cubans in his case was but part of a general crusade that is being waged against all Americans in the island since the natives were given their independence a few months ago.

Mr. Horn has made good since graduation. He was in Alaska for a time and later he studied in the New York botanical gardens. He went to Cuba several years ago and in time acquired a position of importance in the experiment station work. This happened under the American protection of the island. When the Cubans were for a second time given control of their own affairs they at once began to fire the Americans holding government positions. The crusade has been active and few of the United States citizens are now left in their positions of trust.

INTERESTING TREE PLANTATION

Professor Phillips Visits Experimental Stations.

Professor Phillips has just returned from a four days' trip to some of the tree plantations of the state. During his trip he made plans for the establishment of an experimental plantation on the ranch of Hon. Mr. Keifer of Nuckolls county. This will be a place where the success of various kinds of forest culture can be noted in order that the knowledge so gained can be used in the planting and culture of trees in Nebraska.

Professor Phillips also visited the Robeson plantation of Hardy Catalpa at Pawnee City. This is one of the most noted plantations in the United States, because it has proven the value of that kind of trees.

Alpha Theta Chi fraternity will entertain at a house party Friday evening, March 19th.

MERCER WILL COME

THE Y. M. C. A. BRINGS NOTED SPEAKER TO UNIVERSITY.

HAS VISITED MANY COLLEGES

Has Seen Many Phases of Humanity Through His Years of Work in the Bowery of New York City.

The Y. M. C. A. has been successful in its attempt to bring Edward C. Mercer to the university. With one of the most peculiar histories that could be the lot of any man, Mr. Mercer has become one of the most prominent of college Y. M. C. A. workers and is in greater demand as a speaker than almost any other man on the platform.

Mr. Mercer will be in the city for several days, but his most important meeting will be a large mass meeting of men to be held in the Temple theater, Friday evening. Dr. Condra will preside at this meeting and declares that his interest in the general student welfare prompts him to this action. The university quartet will sing, and if the present plans are successful, the meeting will be one of the most rousing that has been held at the Temple for a good while. Mr.



Edward C. Mercer

Mercer will speak on the subject, "College Grads on the Bowery."

History of Life.

Mr. Mercer is a member of one of the most prominent families in Virginia, being a cousin of the late President Chester A. Arthur and a great-grandson of General Hugh Mercer, the Revolutionary general. He was one of the most prominent students at the University of Virginia and was a member of a prominent fraternity. While there he began drinking in a social way, and as the habit grew on him he became a confirmed drunkard, without home or friends.

He was advised by his closest friends to commit suicide, but was finally taken by a cousin to the McAuley mission in New York city, where he in time reformed and became the assistant superintendent. He thus for many years came into the closest contact with the Bowery life of New York city and had every opportunity of learning through direct contact with that life of the subject on which he speaks.

Meets Fraternity Men.

Mr. Mercer has the distinction of having met during the last few years more college fraternity men than any

other man in the United States. He says: "I have covered 65 per cent of the larger universities of America, meeting about 10,000 college men a year, and have been in more fraternity houses than any one man in America." While he is at the University of Nebraska Mr. Mercer plans to spend a good deal of his time with the fraternity men, and if it can be arranged he will visit them in their houses.

At the University of Virginia Mr. Mercer was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity and is therefore especially qualified to speak to fraternity men. He was also one of the leaders of the school in all college activities. He was captain of the varsity baseball team, a member of the glee club and a leader in the social life of the college.

Gets Favorable Notice.

Wherever Mr. Mercer has spoken he has been greeted by large audiences and has aroused great enthusiasm. In speaking of his address, the Daily Illini says:

"The speaker showed sympathetic appreciation of the normal problems that confront college men. His statistics were startling. On a single occasion he found fifty-nine college men in the New York bread line. In the Tombs he discovered that a large proportion of the inmates were men of college training. Mr. Mercer made a quiet, but very eloquent appeal for character and moral uprightness."

A unique method of advertising the presence of Mr. Mercer has been adopted by the Y. M. C. A. At the beginning of the week posters were put up containing simply the word Mercer. Later new notices were put up which told the date of Mr. Mercer's appearance. Lastly, posters will be put up telling the whole affair.

MUSIC RECITAL AT THE TEMPLE

Sixth of Students' Series To Be Given Next Thursday Evening.

The sixth students' recital of the university school of music will be given Thursday evening, March 18th, in the Temple theater at 8 o'clock. The public is cordially invited. Following is the program:

Grieg, Ballade, G minor—Arvid Samuelson.

Horrocks, The Nightingale; D'Hardelot, I Hid My Love—Sarah Martin.

Haydn, Theme and Variations, F minor—Elsa Given.

Chadwick, He Loves Me, The Dance—Lina Timmerman.

Dvorak, Humoresque; Moszkowski, Serenata—Hedwig Jaeggi.

DeLara, Songs of Two Lives:

There was a Song.

Into my life.

Through life there runs a chain.

Across the Void.

—Lula Carnes.

Strauss-Schneett, waltz, "Geschichten aus dem Wiener Wald"—Bessie Chambers.

Gounod, waltz, song from "Romeo and Juliet"—Francella French.

Beethoven, concerto, C minor—Allegro con brio.

(Cadenza by Beethoven.)

Marie Allen.

(Second piano, Mrs. Jones.)

Reserved Seats.

Seats for the inter-class athletic meet Saturday evening may be reserved at the Co-op, without extra charge. The dance after the meet will begin promptly at 10, regardless of whether or not the meet is finished by that time.

Several Students Fired with indignation because they thought they were buying a \$6.00 pen for \$2.50; but they found out that it was only a fairy story. They bought Swans at the Co-op this week.

GERMAN CLUB MEETS.

The German club will meet tonight with Professor Fossler.

PICKING THEIR TEAMS

CLASSES HAVE PRELIMINARIES FOR BIG MEET.

ENTRY LIST PROBABLY SATURDAY

Athletes Are Enthusiastic About the Event and Will Do Good Work. Big Crowd is Expected to Attend.

With only two days intervening before the first annual inter-class meet, the athletes of the university are making the final arrangements for the big contest. For the last two or three days the different classes have been holding preliminaries for the selecting of the men who are to represent them. Many of the entries for various events have been made, but the list will not be completed until probably Friday night, when the last of the trials by some of the classes will be held.

Dr. Clapp expects the meet will be a very interesting one, as the best athletic strength of the university will be shown on the four teams Saturday night. Stuart Dobbs, who has charge of the student end of the meet, said yesterday afternoon that practically all of the probable point winners for the varsity team this spring will be represented in the inter-class games. This he said would insure a decidedly interesting contest.

Basket Ball Informal.

In connection with and following the meet will be held the last informal armory dance of the year. Admission to this hop will be twenty-five cents in addition to the general admission fee. This dance will be a big attraction, as it will be the first one that has been held in several weeks.

Plenty of seats will be set up for the big crowd that is expected to attend the meet. The side bleachers which were used during the basketball season will be put in place. These will take care of 600 or 700 people.

Arrangements are being made by the committee in charge of the meet to have the games run off in fast time. They realize that one of the things which makes a track meet "slow" is the delay in pulling off events. To do away with this defect in the meet Saturday they are planning to have two or three of the games going on at one time. This will not only get the games over in a short time but will also help to keep up the interest of the spectators who will have something to watch all the time.

Call To Be Soon.

The inter-class meet has kept Dr. Clapp from getting the track men assembled in a general call for spring practice, and as soon as it is over he will probably ask them to report for the training season. All of the men who will take part in the work of the varsity this spring are among the representatives of the different classes and they are getting ready in training now, although the practice season has not yet been formally opened.

Baseball practice is still being held in the gymnasium each afternoon. Manager Eager said yesterday that if the present pleasant weather continued for the next few days that the squad would be taken out to Antelope park the latter part of the week. The bleachers which were placed at the ball park for the football games last fall are now being removed and the diamond will be in shape for practice within three or four days.

The best oyster stew in the city is that served at The Boston Lunch. Try it.