

Basketball Tournament One of Country's Big Athletic Meets

The annual high school basketball tournament now in progress, in which are entered 120 teams and 1,007 Nebraska boys, is today one of the biggest athletic events in America and easily surpasses anything of its kind. Six years ago, in 1911, when the first tournament was called together with eighteen entered, athletic authorities at Nebraska never dreamed that they would ever be able to make the tournament so big, and so far-reaching an event.

To bring the high school boys of the state, the future wearers of the scarlet and cream, in closer touch with their State University, and to clarify the competition for the state championship in basketball, the first tournament was scheduled. Eighteen teams came to Lincoln to participate, among them Beatrice with "Dick"

ing University Place in the finals, won the championship.

Sixty teams came for the fourth tournament in 1914, which Lincoln high school won in whirlwind fashion. Lincoln also took championship honors the following year—1915—with 77 teams in the tournament.

By this time there were so many teams in the play that it was necessary to divide them into two classes, A, and B, based on the records of the individual towns for the season. This plan was carried out again last year, when there were 88 teams in the race. Beatrice high school, winner of the first tournament, repeated its feat of six years ago and earned the title of 1916 state champions.

This year the increase in the number of entries has been bigger than usual, and three divisions, instead of

western standard of athletics—Michigan being representative. In 1912 the students petitioned a return to the conference, but the petition was rejected by the athletic board; this board, however, petitioned the regents in 1913, but were unsuccessful. The students, faculty and alumni are now almost unanimously in favor of changing the "Big Nine" to the "Big Ten," and beat or be beaten by their neighboring universities. The question will be settled at the meeting of the regents, March 31.—Ex.

"A" for Arizona U.

College letters planted on hillsides contiguous to the various institutions seem to have become exceedingly popular during recent years. At the present time there are a number of letters of notable size in various parts of the country, and the colleges of the land vie for honors in the size and altitude of their respective emblems.

A large letter of this kind is the University of Arizona "A" situated at Tucson, Ariz.

This large letter is located on Sentinel Peak, which is about three miles east of the university campus. The hill has an elevation of about 2,885 feet, lying on a face that slopes at an angle of 23 degrees. This location brings the letter to the attention of all travelers coming to or going from the city, and may be seen for many miles in either direction, although the farthest point from which it can be seen is thirty-five miles to the east.

The "A" is 70 feet wide and 160 feet long. The width of the legs is 10 feet and the crossbar 20 feet, with the average height of masonry about two feet above the ground.

The construction was done by cleaning the location of all shrubbery, digging trenches to outline the letter and serve as a foundation for the masonry, which was built up from the rock at hand and from mortar hauled up the steep side of the mountain by six-horse teams. The water necessary for the mixing of the sixty sacks of cement used was also hauled up the hill. The total masonry constructed and whitewashed covers 6,500 square feet.

The work, which was all done by students in their spare time, was begun on November 13, 1915, and the "A" was finally finished on March 4, 1916.—Ex.

A complete ambulance unit, consisting of twenty men and a motor truck will be sent to European battle fields by the University of Wisconsin February 17.—Ex.

An inter-class wrestling tournament is a new feature at the University of Nebraska. It is hoped by the Nebraskans' coach that this will be an annual affair which will put wrestling on an equal basis with other sports.—Ex.

Ohio State University now ranks among those that grant journalism degrees. The college of commerce and journalism has been added, with degrees in bachelor of science in journalism and in business administration.—Ex.

Chicago Phi Gams Robbed

The Phi Gamma Delta house at Chicago University was robbed of \$400 last week. About the same time, during the Junior Prom, the Sigma Chi house at Oxford, Ohio, was visited by thieves who carried away \$50. Now we read of robbers entering the locker room of the gymnasium at Indiana University, rifling the clothes of the basketball team, playing upstairs, getting some money and several gold watches. The Daily Maroon suggests that this is the time when all good houses should lock their doors.—K. U.

Finances Ruin Publication

The Awk, university humorous monthly for the last year and a half, has discontinued publication. Careless handling of finances is given as the reason for the failure of the magazine.—Wisconsin.

Laughs as Assets

According to the Daily Kansan, laughter is an asset, and can be turned to one's advantage and made to bring material results. As an example, the Kansan tells of a man who, before he hired a man, told him a funny story. This captain of industry would decide, to some extent, by the man's laughter whether he would be satisfactory or not.—Ex.

Faulty College English

The prevalence of faulty English among an alarming per cent of the



GUY E. REED, MANAGER OF ATHLETICS
In Charge of the tournament.

Rutherford, assistant coach, playing with them. Omaha, Lincoln, Geneva, Columbus and Beatrice were left to fight it out at the end of the tournament, and Beatrice won.

The first tournament was so successful that twenty-five teams entered the tourney in 1912, which was won by Omaha. From that time on the growth in size of the event has been by leaps and bounds, until it has reached this year such proportions that four floors were used to accommodate the teams.

There were 45 teams in the tournament of 1913, bringing the untold number of 350 high school athletes to Lincoln. Geneva, by eliminating Omaha in the semi-finals, and defeat-

two, have been made. If the tournament grows in the coming year as fast as it has in the past, division into four classes probably will be necessary.

Neither the University nor the high schools of the state can today judge accurately the good that has come to both from the tournament. High school basketball is certainly of a higher grade in Nebraska than it is in probably any other state in the Union, and athletes coming to Nebraska have behind them real, actual experience in keenest competition. On the other hand the University early becomes acquainted with the man who later are to help keep Nebraska athletics on the high plane of past years.

high officials of the university did rule that his name be scratched off the rolls of Baker. That he is not only here, but still doing business was shown Wednesday evening when Leon Whitney and Miss Laura Nichols announced their engagement.—Baker Orange.

Co-operation for Demonstration

Washington State College and the University of Idaho are co-operating with the Spokane Chamber of Commerce and the Great Northern railroad for the running of a "land-clearing train" through northern Idaho and northwestern Washington. Arrangements were completed last Saturday in Spokane by representatives of the promoting parties. The purpose of the train is to demonstrate the best and most practical way of clearing the logged-off land. The train will consist of eight or ten cars for the accommodation of the men working at the clearing, for hauling machinery, and explosives.—Nevada.

Michigan and the Big Nine

Maurice F. Dunne, representing the University of Michigan, briefly reviewed the history of the Big Nine conference until 1905, when Michigan withdrew. The main reason for the withdrawal was the conference three year ruling which would have made twelve men ineligible.

Two-fold benefits were derived from the eastern affiliations; eastern ideas were introduced into Michigan and the east awoke to the realization of the

THE COLLEGE WORLD

Co-Ed Circus

The co-eds of Louisiana State University held a circus all their own. The circus was strictly private for co-eds, but reports say that it was a great success. There were elephants, clowns, snake charmers, chariot races between "fiery steeds" driven by "heroic drivers," and all that usually attracts at a circus.—Ex.

Chess Training Quarters

Members of the Columbia Chess club are going to ask the faculty for a room, which they can use as permanent training quarters. The chess men contend that they need a place where they can train regularly for their hard matches.—Ex.

Freshman girls at University of Michigan have decided to wear a distinctive green button on the lapel of their coats in the future. The action was purely voluntary.—Ex.

Underpaid Janitors

The University of Illinois is having trouble with its janitors. They demanded an increase in their wages to an average of 27 cents an hour, but the university authorities only granted an average of 24 cents. The men, and especially the women, complain that they are underpaid.—Ex.

"Cupid" hasn't left yet, even if the



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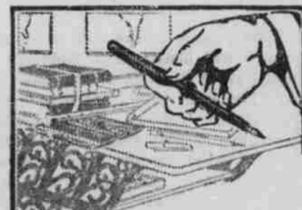
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students of Grinnell has led to the adoption of much more stringent requirements in this line by the Grinnell faculty which will go into effect next fall. The new plan, as announced by the administration this morning, aims at a mastery by each student of the elements of English composition before he receive the required credit necessary for graduation.—Ex.

Lack of Cooks

The "servant problem" must be getting quite serious at Illinois. The Chemistry club has been forced to postpone its dinner and celebration because no one could be found to do the cooking.—Ex.



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