

The Daily Nebraskan

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

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PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Inter-fraternity athletic contests are the nearest approach to the inter-mural system that we have yet seen in the middle west. State universities as a class are very slow to adopt the idea. As far as the state institutions are concerned, no real test of the universal athletic plan has been made. We are left to judge of its merits by the success attained in a few schools, and by the interest taken in the near-attempts that are made at our own institution.

Little interest has been shown outside of strictly fraternity circles, toward the inter-fraternity tournament now in progress. Few of the participants have demonstrated much enthusiasm. The games are attended by a small gathering of those immediately concerned. The players do not get into the game for the physical exercise they may get, but merely because they think it their duty to the fraternity. They dread to think of the stiff muscles that the exertion will produce on the day following. No joy or zest is taken in the games. Few non-fraternity people know that such a tournament is actually in progress.

University students generally are in a state of physical apathy. They do not appear ready to accept or take advantage of a system of inter-mural athletics, designed for the development of their physical being. They enjoy watching a football game from the grand stand. They applaud the display of physical prowess on the gridiron, and are keenly interested in the battle of physical strength. They do not, however, have any desire to get on the field themselves, and actively take part in the game. They are too lazy for that. The physical exertion necessitated is abhorred.

Students need to be awakened to the realization that they must look to the physical side of their education as well as to the mental. Enough has been said on the necessity of bodily soundness. It is not necessary to have the body of a Hercules, but it is quite necessary to have a body that functions properly, and one that can digest, and take care of three meals a day. It is unnecessary to look to the football field for the development of such a body. It can be developed in the gymnasium, or indeed within the confines of one's own room, quite as well.

Physical training should be compulsory for every university student, and with the advantages of an inter-mural system such as has been outlined in our columns before, no student would object to such compulsion. Every student would be examined for the purpose of determining the type of athletics which would be most beneficial for him. It might be football for one, golf for another, basketball for a third, and tennis for a fourth. Interest in one's own body would be enlivened, and the prevailing spirit of apathy would be buried. Football, basketball; even inter-fraternity contests, do not solve the problem. The final solution to arousing the interest of every student, is to get each one interested in HIS OWN BODY, and not in the some one's else. He admires the muscles of the trained athlete, but that doesn't materially benefit him. What we need is the universal plan, which gives to each individual student the benefit of physical training as administered by competent directors in scientific doses, suited to the individual needs of each one.

FOREIGN STUDENTS IN SWITZERLAND

When the war broke out, there were several thousand foreign students in the universities of Switzerland. Over half of these were women. They represented some thirty nations, including all the belligerents. Suddenly hundreds of these students found themselves cut off from all means of getting either news or money.

Before long the number of foreign students in Switzerland was increased by many Russian students who had been in other countries and who fled for refuge to peaceful Switzerland. The refugees arrived without much except the clothes in which they traveled. There are now some five hundred refugee university students in Switzerland—not only Russians, but also Poles, Czechs, Croats, Serbs, Greeks, French and Belgians. The Russians have steadily refused tempting loans or subsidies offered by the Bolsheviks, saying, "We would die first."

As to the men students, the secretaries of the Student Christian Federation in Switzerland are constantly asked, "Why do they not go home to fight?" And as to the women, "Why do they not seek work?" To most of these men and women a return home has been impossible, first, because of the enemy countries lying between Switzerland and their homeland, and, second, as in Russia, because of the dreadful change in the homeland itself. Moreover, the men students are mainly those who, on physical grounds, have been refused for military service. Men and women alike have aimed at self-support, but employment has been hard to find.

The appeal to American generosity is, first of all, to give food to these students.

The Student Christian Federation is helping the foreign students in Switzerland materially and spiritually. Students in this country might well aid this work. Contributions to it from them and others should be sent to Mr. B. H. Fancher, treasurer of the International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations, 347 Madison avenue, New York City.

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Society

SOCIAL EVENTS

February 28.

Kappa chapter of Chi Omega held its annual formal party at the Lincoln hotel. Seventy-five couples attended. The decorations and refreshments were carried out in the fraternity colors, cardinal and straw. Little Betty Ann Murray and Jane Burgess gave out the programs. The chaperones, patrons and patronesses were: Governor and Mrs. S. R. McKelvie, Senator and Mrs. E. C. Huston, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Clark, Professor and Mrs. Sealock, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sanford, Mrs. Jessie Doyle Murray, Miss Mary Annette Anderson, Mr. George W. Little, and Miss Amanda Heppner.

The freshmen of Pi Beta Phi entertained thirty couples at a St. Patrick's house dance. Miss Carson, the province president, was a guest. Mrs. Eberly and Mrs. Atkinson chaperoned the party.

The freshmen of Phi Gamma Delta entertained thirty couples at a house dance. The chaperones were Mrs. S. S. Hadley and Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Kimball.

Thirty couples were guests of Sigma Phi Epsilon at a house dance. Lieutenant Westerman of Rushville was a guest.

Twenty couples attended the house dance given by Delta Delta Delta. Miss Agnes Bigger of Corning, Ia., and Miss Clara Pegler of Bluefield, Neb., were out-of-town guests. Mrs. Ida Hill and Mr. and Mrs. B. Green chaperoned the party.

March 1.

Alpha Sigma Phi entertained at a house dance for twenty couples.

Sigma Nu entertained twenty-five couples at a house dance. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dobson, Miss Laurene Bratt and Mr. Ernest Kenny chaperoned the party. The out-of-town guests were Maor, Hedges, Panama, Frank Par-

sons of Omaha and Sidney Goodfellow of Greenwood.

Gamma Phi Beta held its annual banquet at the Lincoln hotel. Brown and mauve, the sorority colors, were used in the decorations. Miss Eleanor Frampton acted as toastmistress. The toast list was as follows: "The Carnation," Jean Hudson; "The Crescent," Effie Starbuck; "The Open Book," Della Cobb; "The Lighted Lamp," Viola Kleinke; "The Shield," Sylvia Propes. The alumnae present were Mrs. Harry Campbell, Mrs. Leland Landers, and Miss Kate Helzer, Valentine; Miss Florence Jenks, Avoka, Ia.; Miss Sylvia Prokes, Schuyler, Neb.; Miss Ruth Irvine, Wayside, Kansas; Miss Caroline Kimball, David City, and Miss Doris Weaver, Sioux City, Ia.

Pi Kappa Phi entertained at a formal dancing party at the Lincoln hotel. The program of dances was enjoyed by seventy-five couples. Yellow and white, the colors of the fraternity, were carried out in the decorations and in the refreshments. Professor and Mrs. E. H. Barbour, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Paige, Professor and Mrs. E. R. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. John Rosborough chaperoned the dancers. The out-of-town guests were Mr. R. W. Ford, Bertrand; Mr. J. D. Davis, Omaha; Mr. J. D. Sherman, Argo, S. D.; and Mr. E. M. Catterson, Sutton.

Chi Omega gave its annual banquet at the Lincoln hotel. Fifty-five active and alumnae members were present. The tables were decorated with baskets of yellow jonquills. The owl-shaped menus contained the following toast list: "Why I Am Toastmistress," Beatrice Koch; "In the Front Line Trenches," Meryl Hardin; "Sights I Have Seen," Edith Cash; "Who's Who," Lulu Haskell; "I've Been Thinking," Helen Stuby. Out-of-town guests were Mrs. Frances Hoses, Omaha; Miss Helen Scott, Stromsberg; Miss Myrtle Fisher, Norfolk; Miss Leona McLean, Dennison, Ia.; Mrs. Betty Denman, Adams; Miss Mildred Adams and Mrs. Vera Adams Davis, Omaha; Miss Beatrice Koch, Rising City; Miss Violet Summs, Aurora.

Delta Chi entertained twenty couples at a house dance. Mr. and Mrs. Merle Wade were chaperones.