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Editorials

Mind Training

As College 'Activity.'

Recently the president of Iowa State college deplored in an Ames, Ia., graduation address, the "much shallow thinking to be found among the graduates." "Although thousands of graduates are men and women of whom their colleges may be justly proud," he said, "there are still great numbers upon whom education seems to have left no deep mark."

In the speech, not entirely original as to subject matter, this speaker announced that he would change the meaning of "activity" in college life and would make the conscious training of the intellect the primary "activity."

That such a change is necessary if this university as well as others of its kind thruout the land are to be universities in the true sense of the word, has long been realized. Lord Bacon long ago recognized the sterility of the human mind with regard to independent thinking and individual experimentation. He writes:

"It is a fatal mistake to suppose that the sciences have gradually arrived at a state of perfection, and then been recorded by some one writer or other; and that as nothing better can afterward be invented, men need but cultivate and set off what is thus discovered and completed; whereas, in reality, this registering of the sciences proceeds only from the assurance of a few and the sloth and ignorance of many."

If this was true in the middle of the sixteenth century, it is certainly more true today. Since that time there have been many advances, to be sure. Men have used their minds and have made progress. But must they not still speak of the "subtlety" of nature the concealment of truth, the obscurity of things, the entanglement of causes, and the imperfections of human understanding?"

Perhaps it may seem futile to urge the collegiates of today to work toward finding answers to questions that puzzled the author of the "Instauratio Magna" so many years ago. Perhaps even those who agree with Lord Bacon that "the knowledge delivered down to us is barren in effects, fruitful in questions, slow and lan-

guld in improvement, exhibiting in its generalities the counterfeits of perfection, but meager in its details and popular in its aim" cannot see the use in trying to change the situation. Can it be possible that this may account for the "shallow thinking" that the college president speaks about?

There is, of course, such a possibility, but it is more than likely that the real reason is not so much a sense of futility as a feeling of lethargy, a belief that when one has learned in general something about the knowledge that has already been collected he has become educated and that there is nothing more to do. As Bacon said in the past, so it is true today, this can never "open the way of truth."

Classes Dismissed for Talk of Ladies of Far East

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 per year. However, it was the national pride that was emphasized as the deep underlying force. The Japanese exclusion act, the lecturer indicated, "was, in their eyes, a deadly insult because it put Japanese on the same level with Chinese and branded them as 'Asiaties'."

From economic and social points of view, he said, the act might have been justified; yet the more important point of view, the psychological one, was overlooked by the Americans.

On Wednesday morning, Dr. MacNair lectured on "The Russian Angle." All three lectures were well attended by students and faculty members. Both Dr. MacNair and his wife, Dr. Ayscough, are considered among the foremost authorities on the far east. Both have traveled and written extensively and are members of many organizations and societies both here and in foreign countries. Mrs. MacNair's address Thursday morning is considered one of the highlights of the series of addresses being sponsored by the university this year.

Five New Members Added to Faculty

(Continued from Page 1.)
 guages in place of R. F. French, resigned. John H. Hammond was named an assistant instructor in the same department in place of Miss Agnes Gordon, on leave. Mr. Hammond was formerly an instructor at Texas Christian and assistant in the Spanish department at Wisconsin.

Dr. Wilbur S. Gregory, now a

part time instructor at Syracuse university, was named instructor in psychology for one year in place of Dr. A. F. Jenness who will be on leave.

MANY ACTIVITIES ON PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

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gram so attractive to the young musicians. The following are some of the highlights of this week's program:

Wednesday: The group went to see the University Players presentation of "As You Like It" at the Temple theater.

Friday—Open house at the girls'

dormitory after 7:30 p. m.

Saturday: The annual dance at Carrie Bell Raymond hall. This is probably the most gala occasion in the four week program, since it is the one formal party.

Monday afternoon—A picnic is scheduled for both girls and boys at Pioneer's Park.

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