

# First university newspaper is 69 years old this month

By George Abbott.

While the university is celebrating its 72nd anniversary tomorrow, the appearance of the DAILY NEBRASKAN during the month of February marks the 69th year that a publication representing the university has been edited by students.

This fact was revealed by the discovery of the "grand dad" of the NEBRASKAN, the "Hesperian Student," in the pamphlet files of the university library's reference department. Volume 1, Number 1, the first copy of the paper, then a monthly, is dated February, 1872. At that time, the "Hesperian" was edited by J. S. Dales, who was one of the two students in the first graduating class of the university.

The monthly was published by the Palladian society of the university and, according to an article in the first edition "the paper is a very presentable and spicy sheet."

The first edition presents a more or less terrifying picture of the southwestern part of the United States in an article by a correspondent for the Springfield Republican entitled "The Humors of the Far West," written about New Mexico: "Like all countries beyond civilization, the low value on human life is at first startling, but one gets used to hearing over the morning coffee, of some horror, with a tranquillity excelled only by the natives; it becomes merely an every day item to know that the Apaches have murdered a few miserable Mexican shepherds, or that somebody had shot his neighbor in the plaza at Las Vegas."

Typical of the items listed in the paper are the following three: "It is amusing to step into the reading room and see with what velocity certain students read some of the largest and most scientific works in our library," and "The university inaugurated its second term on the 7th, with from 25 to 30 new students. This speaks well for the management of Chancellor Benton and his noble corps of 'Profs.'"

Then this one, containing a note of alarm and expressing one of the problems of the librarians of the day. "We have known students to take up a Congressional Globe, (now the Congressional Record) read it through, and be perfectly satisfied in five or ten minutes. We hope the students won't be greedy in the matter, and read all the books through at once."

A four page paper, the Hesperian's back page was given over to advertising, with most of the firms represented now long out of business. The ad run by the university was particularly interesting: "The University of the State was opened last September under favorable conditions, and this far has been prosperous and successful." Of the faculty, the ad says "The faculty at present, is composed of five professors, skilled in their several departments of instruction. To these there will be added two more at the opening of the next college year." And concerning apparatus, "The institution is liberally supplied with apparatus, cabinet, library, and all needful facilities for illustrating the subjects taught. The philosophical and chemical apparatus is especially large and valuable."

Probably the most interesting of the ads in the paper is one run by a local jeweler entitled "Table Showing the Differences in Time." In this ad, is shown the time in other cities as compared with Lincoln's. Lincoln's time is shown as 12:00 M., with New York City, 1:30 P. M.; 10:17 in Sacramento; and 10:16 A. M. in Portland. A difference in time of three minutes is shown for a city as short a distance away as Omaha, with 12:03 listed. At Fort Kearney (now Kearney) the time was given as 11:59.

The lead story in the first issue bears the dramatic headline, "How far the dramatic faculty is compatible with the Love of Truth." The author of the article was J. S. Dales, who closed with this paragraph, "I am ready to conclude, therefore, with the assertion, that the cultivation of the dramatic faculty, so long as it does not amount to too serious an exaggeration of that which has been already established, is not incompatible with the love of truth." The

motto of the paper was "Qui non Proffit, Deficit," which translated means, "He who does not profit, loses."

Another noteworthy article contained in the first edition is one borrowed from the Omaha Herald. It illustrates the interest of the university in the people (and prospective students) coming to Nebraska from the East. "Mr. George W. Gratton, Emigration Agent, has just returned from New York, where he has been engaged for the last five months in organizing colonies for emigration to Nebraska. Mr. Gratton informs us that there will probably be about 40 families from Orleans county. Mr. Cornelius Schaller, agent of Burlington in England, writes to us that one thousand English emigrants will leave that county for Nebraska early in the spring. These are merely

straws indicating the direction of the wind on this subject of immigration which will pour 100,000 more people into Nebraska in the next 18 months than it now contains."

Tables representing the public school situation in the state were also presented in the first issue, in one chart showing the number of public schools and the materials used to build them they were classed as stone, brick, frame, log, or sod. Twenty-eight of the sod school buildings were still standing in the third year of the university's existence, while only eleven stone buildings were listed.

In sharp contrast with the knowledge of modern laboratory work with the microscope is one article entitled "What the Microscope Reveals." The bulk of this (See NEWSPAPER, page 8.)



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## Behind the Headlines

### Franco-Mussolini chat

Speculation is rife over possible implications of the meeting between Premier Mussolini and Spanish Generalissimo Francisco Franco reported to have taken place "somewhere in Italy" Wednesday.

Two explanations have been advanced concerning possible meaning of the meeting. One is that it duce, trying to recoup some of his lost strength in the Mediterranean, is pressing for Spain's aid in the western Mediterranean. The other is that Franco is seeking to bring an end to the war between Britain and Italy.

### Berlin, London scoff

Very little credence has been given the peace idea. A Berlin spokesman called it "the best joke in the world's history," and in London the idea has been definitely discredited. There is little wonder that the winning English should be unwilling to consider a peace with it duce at this time.

In the first place, the English have conclusively demonstrated that they can smash the Italian armies. Consequently, as long as the British control the Mediterranean the Italian African empire continues to decline. By continuing victories over the Italians the English will maintain and increase their prestige in the Moslem world—exceedingly important when Britain's entire African policy is considered.

Secondly, important psychological values accrue to the English by continuing to smash the Italians. Victories are a wonderful stimulus to public morale, and in the face of possible German action this spring the English may need the thought of a few victories to enable them to hold on.

### Air bases

—Thirdly, the near east and

### Foundation holds annual election

The University of Nebraska Foundation will hold its business meeting at a luncheon tomorrow noon at 12:15 in parlors X and Y of the Union. At the meeting the annual election of officers will be held and a report of the year's activities given. In this report all gifts and bequests will be brought before the Foundation.

John Agee, president of the Foundation, will preside and Wendell Berge, speaker at the Charter Day convocation will be a guest. About 30 of the country's 56 trustees are expected to attend.

### Voice students present recital

A demonstration of voice types was presented by the students of Miss Alma Wagner of the school of fine arts before an assembly at Jackson high school on Thursday morning, Feb. 13. Rose Dunder of Lincoln acted as lecturer, and Mrs. Margaret Lindgren, also of Lincoln accompanied the group.

Students and their parts on the program were:

Lyric tenor: George Joy, "Songs My Mother Taught Me," Dvorak; "The Minstrel," Martin.  
Coloratura soprano: Antonette Skoda, "Lullaby" (Jocelyn), Godard; "Cargo Nome," (Rigoletto), Verdi.  
Bass: Bob Anderson, "The Big Bass Viol," Bohannon.  
Lyric soprano: Janet Regnier, "Clouds," Charles; "A Heart That's Free," Robyn.  
Contralto: Dorothy Huffman, "Verdant Meadows," "Over the Steppe," Gretchenhoff.  
Coloratura soprano: Rose Dunder, "Abelajah," Mozart; "Maid of Cadiz," Bellini.  
Baritone: Jack Anderson, "Colette," Hourby; "Sweet Little Jesus Boy," MacIntyre.

Rare books from a private collection in Cambridge, England, have been added to the library of Texas State College for Women.

The Michigan Wolverine, with 950 members, is said to be the largest student co-operative in the world.

### No Union dances

There will be no dance in the Union this week Friday or Saturday because the Faculty Women are meeting in the ballroom Friday and the Charter Day banquet will be held in the ballroom Saturday.

### KKK, honorary agronomy club, initiates new men

Seven men were initiated into Tri K, honorary agronomy club, at a dinner meeting of the society on ag campus. Following the initiation, Dr. A. L. Lugn, of the geology department spoke on the "Ground Water Resources of Nebraska." Men initiated were: Charles Vette, Norman Davis, Jack Cannell, Gene Mundorff, Warren Sahs, Carl Epp and John Hanway.

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