

Among the new "faces" that appear at our literary feast is that of "*The Practical Student*," published weekly at Ohio Wesleyan. It is published in regular newspaper form which detracts greatly from its appearance. The reading matter is excellent. The athletic column is particularly good, almost as the NEBRASKAN'S, in fact.

Although it may seem incongruous to mention the Student's Hand Book in this column, we wish to speak a few words of praise to the members of the University Y. M. C. A. for their foresight in publishing this useful little book. The time schedule is especially helpful to the "green" student in the first troublous days of registering.

The University of Wisconsin, by the will of a Milwaukee lady, Mrs. Caroline Markham, has just received a bequest of \$20,000 to be use for founding scholarships, or for such other purpose as seems best to the trustees. We trust that some of our alumni will take note that in the east it is considered good form and entirely proper to give large sums of money to Universities. To die, we assure you, is not a necessary feature. We advise those who intend to act upon our suggestion to come early and avoid the rush.

The first college publication which comes to the notice of the Exchange Column of this student's joy-bringer, is the *Ariel* from the University of Minnesota. The cover is adorned by a fountain-pen advertisement and several neatly arranged engravings which look like flash-light pictures without the flash. If the engravings were clearer the paper would be neat despite the the glaring ad. As to the contents, the athletic column is by far the brightest in style. It has some snap about it. It would seem from a perusal of the *Ariel* that the students of the University of Minnesota can sympathize with us on the hard times question. We draw this conclusion from the statement that two fraternities have given up their chapter houses for the present.

## Dramatic Notes.

Last week's receipts at the box office of the Auditorium were over \$65,000, which incidentally shows the great popularity of "America."

The play is considered as a part of the World's Only, and to go away without seeing it is regarded in the light of a crime.

The spectacle is built on about the same lines as the discovery of America by the same author, Irmi Kiralfy, except that the early scenes of Columbus are omitted and historical scenes of this country added. Of course all this is represented on a much more gorgeous scale than attempted by Barnum who carried the Discovery of America with his "Big Show."

It is said that what the play-going people are waiting for is a good melo-drama. It seems quite unfortunate but nevertheless true that they will have to wait for some time if the present conglomeration of thrilling lines is any criterion of how playwrights are progressing.

Take the Soudan, Power of the Press, Limited Mail, &c., and we have the same impossible situations and the same thrilling climaxes. All of these so-called later melo-dramas depend upon their scenery and stage effects to help them out. The height of this folly was shown in Elmer Vance's "Patent Applied For," where complex machinery was exhibited for which the audience cared nothing.

Scenery and stage effects are the finishing touches to a play and should be made secondary to the play itself and not primary. The play should not revolve around the scenery just because the proprietor has bought a lot of condemned fire engines and a good-sized water tank.

The pottery kilns shown in the "Middle Man" add greatly to the play, but are the details and could easily be dispensed with. As a general rule these plays have a regulation dude to create merriment, and such a