

# THE NEBRASKAN

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## TO MAKE ATHLETES

The "Pentathlon" Described by Dr. Clark

### A MEDAL FOR SO MANY POINTS

Contestants Must Be All-Around Men—The Highest Average Wins—An Ideal Method.

The editor of THE NEBRASKAN has asked me to describe the method of conducting and scoring athletic events which is now quite universal among Young Men's Christian Associations. I gladly do this, not however with the hope or even the desire that this scheme be adopted here this year, but in order that an idea may be given of a different method of work from that prevailing in the ordinary field day.

A number of years ago the need of some different method of scoring for athletic events led to the evolution of what is now well known as the pentathlon or five event contest. It has proved very successful and the statements here made are mainly the ideas of the developer of the scheme, Dr. Luther Gulich, of the International Y. M. C. A. Training school. He had noted the unsatisfactory method of scoring by firsts and seconds in college contests. The man who wins in any event gets five points whether his record is good or poor. Suppose the third man is far below the first, then the second man gets his three points regardless of whether he is almost as good as the first or only a little better than the third, and a man's total score tells nothing at all as to the record he has made. By this method the scores of two men afford no basis for comparing the men themselves. In the pentathlon method of scoring, each event is so guarded that for a good performance a man may get 100 points, and for a poor performance nothing, while he would get from 1 to 100 points according to his actual record. Thus 54 or 63 points correspond to a definite number of feet, inches or seconds. For instance, if a man pole vaults ten feet, which is not extremely high, he gets 100 points, if he vaults five feet 10 1/4 inches high one point, and the intervening points are divided up evenly between those two limits. 100 yards in 10 2-5 seconds scores 100 points, with 10 points less for every fifth second slower than that, while if he runs in 10 1-5 he gets, in the same ratio 110 points.

Now as its name signifies, the "pentathlon" is a five event contest. Hence every contestant works for as nearly 500 points as possible. So far I know the largest official score which has been made is 444 points of which mention will be made later.

The five events of this contest were selected in view of several considerations:

1st. They must be such that the man will have a thoroughly all-round test; arms, trunk, legs, lungs and heart. His endurance, agility, strength, speed, courage must all be tried.

2nd. The events must be standard events.

3rd. They should involve a minimum of apparatus and expense so that no association could object to them on that score.

4th. The contest, both as a whole and in its parts, should be as short as a thorough test can be.

In the light of these conditions the events chosen were:

The 100-yard dash, Throwing 12-lb. hammer, Running high jump, Pole vault, and Mile run.

A brief consideration will show that these events require little apparatus and that they thoroughly test a man along every line mentioned above. One or another event might have been substituted

for some of these, but on the whole these seemed to be the best and experience has shown no reason why they should be changed.

The scoring limits for these events are as follows:

100-yard dash, from 12 2-5 to 10 2-5, 10 points for every fourth of a second.

Throwing 12-lb. hammer, from 50 ft. to 100 ft., 1 point for every 6 in.

Running high jump, from 3 ft. 6 in., to 5 ft. 7 in., 1 point for every quarter inch.

Pole vault, from 5 ft. 10 in., to 10 ft., 1 point for every half inch.

Mile run, from 6 min. and 40 sec., to 5 min., 1 point for every second.

During the contest the scores are kept on blackboards so that contestants and spectators can follow and see who is ahead. This adds much to the interest.

This 5-event contest is recognized by the international committee of the Young Men's Christian Associations, and when an official field day is held the scores are kept by the international committee.

Rule IX of the 1894 official rules says: "Every contestant scoring a total of 200 points or over shall be entitled to bronze or third grade, with medal having bronze bar and silver pendant. Three hundred points constitute the lower limit of the silver or second grade with medal having silver bar and pendant, and also official certificate. Four hundred points entitle contestant to gold or first grade, with medal having gold bar and silver pendant, and also official certificate."

The "official certificate" referred to is in itself well worth obtaining as a record of work done.

Two remarkable scores were made at an official field day in June '94, by students of the Springfield Training school. The first was as follows, the figures in parenthesis being the number of points corresponding to the score: 100 yards, 10 2-5 seconds (100); 12 lb. hammer, 84 ft., (68); running high jump, 4 ft., 10 in. (64); pole vault 10 feet (100); mile run 4 min. 47 4-5 sec., (112) making a total of 444 points. The score of the second man was, 100 yards 10 2-5 sec. (100); hammer 92 feet 5 in. (85); high jump 6 feet 7 1/4 in. (103); pole vault 9 feet 3 in. (82); mile run 5 min. 43 1-5 sec. (57) a total of 427 points. This same fellow in October '92 scored only 284 points and in much poorer form; thus he made a remarkable gain in twenty months.

At this field day referred to above, 10 out of 25 contestants, scored over 300 points, 8 obtaining silver medals, and two gold medals. Certainly these were all-around men, neither all legs nor all arms.

A prime difference between the pentathlon of the associations and the systems of colleges and athletic unions, is that the former develop men instead of records of individual events, while the latter aim only at the development of records regardless of the men. Another difference in the systems is that the college system encourages professionalism while the pentathlon system offers no inducement to specialists and professionals. The ten men just referred to were as magnificently developed specimens of young manhood as one ever sees, not to be compared in the same breath with one who is simply a jumper or a sprinter, and nothing else. There is as much glory in association circles in winning a gold medal from the international committee as in breaking a college record in any one event and the results to the individuals are far better.

Score cards and an international committee certificate may be seen on the bulletin board by the physical director's office in the gymnasium and questions will be gladly answered. R. A. CLARK.

## JONES IS PRESIDENT

Reaps the Honors at the Oratorical Election.

### FRATERNITY TICKET ELECTED

A Hard Struggle Between the Opposing Factions—The Co-Eds Out in Full Force.

Like many others, the "scrap" of last Friday noon will go down in the history of the University as one of the toughest that ever took place. It was well known that the opposing factions were working energetically for their men, but the multitude which turned out to vote was a surprise to many. It was not thought necessary to have the gallery to the chapel open, but the immense throng which surged into the place of meeting made this imperative. There were enough, too, to fill it comfortably.

Previous to the meeting neat cards, bearing the names of the candidates had been generously distributed, and there were but very few who did not have their minds made up as to which way they should vote, when they entered the chapel. The barb ticket bore the headline, "Students' Representative Ticket." Then followed the candidates: For President, H. E. Newbranch; Vice-President, S. J. Corey; Secretary, W. T. Elmore; Delegates, C. R. Welden, Katharine Melick, W. J. Forsyth and C. M. Skiles. The frat ticket was less imposing. There was no headline and only the names of the candidates were printed upon it. It read: "President, Chas. Jones; Vice-President, Wm. Menzer; Secretary, L. R. Packard; Delegates, Kimball, Houghton, Weaver, McLucas."

By the time the voting started Secretary Putis had before him a heap of money amounting to \$118 and representing 472 votes.

The usual preliminary scrapping took place. There was a divided opinion as to how the vote should be taken. When it was proposed by the barbs that it should be done "vive voce" some opposition was offered. One, representing the other ticket, moved as an amendment, that the ballots should be deposited as in the Australian system, but this method was howled down and the old way decided upon. This looked favorable for the barbs.

The two tickets were then written upon the board and the contest commenced. It started briskly in favor of the frats, and this ticket kept the lead until about the hundredth vote had been cast. Then the barbs were allowed to lead a little, but in no time were they more than ten ahead. Near the close however, "No. 2" was called off so frequently, that the barbs lost courage. They did not recover, and their entire ticket was lost.

This is the way the official vote stood:

Jones 253, Menzer 246, Packard 238, Weaver 253, Houghton 250, McLucas 250, Kimball 254, Newbranch 215, Corey 222, Elmore 230, Forsyth 213, Melick 211, Skiles 207, Welden 238.

One of the most surprising things about the contest was the force in which the co-eds turned out, both barb and frat. It was about the first time that they ever showed any disposition to take part in college affairs, and it may be judged what interest must have been aroused to call them out.

### '98 Elects Officers.

The meeting of '98 Friday afternoon was delayed somewhat by the length of the meeting of the Oratorical Association. The class was finally assembled in Room 15, Nebraska Hall, with over one hundred present.

Flushed with their victory at the meeting of the oratorical association, the "frats" came to the class meeting in a body, and for a time it looked as though there would be a fight on the "Frat" and "Barb" lines. Being late in the day, all business except the election of officers was postponed, and the following were elected irrespective of party affiliations: President, Hubert Evans; vice-president, Florence Payne, secretary, Mr. Congdon, treasurer, Miss Bross.

### ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

#### Committee Appointed to Make Changes in Constitution.

The athletic association met in the chapel Tuesday noon for the purpose of making arrangements to revise the constitution. On motion a committee of five was appointed to prepare a report for the next meeting. The chair appointed A. J. Weaver, B. E. Forbes, C. E. Tefft, J. P. Cameron and Otis Whipple as members of this committee.

The next matter brought up was that of holding the field day exercises. J. P. Cameron, who so ably conducted the exercises last year, was re-appointed director of the field day sports. Cameron, Pace and Hayward were appointed a committee to "run the thing," and Weaver and Charley Jones were appointed a "hustling" committee, to obtain suitable prizes. One prize has already been secured. It is a \$25 gold medal, donated by Yont and Cameron, and will be the first award for the athlete making the best average record in four contests. The medal is now on exhibition at Fleming's jewelry store. The date has not yet been decided upon, but it will probably be May 18th.

Fred Barnes, ex-president of the inter-state league, was called upon for a report of expenses, etc., but he did not have one prepared. A bill was then introduced by Secretary Johnson. It was a bill for the painting of "snakes" on the back of the foot-ball suits, amounting to \$7.70. It was referred to the "finance committee." After a motion was passed instructing the secretary to correspond with the secretaries of the other "three" state universities, looking toward the establishment of an inter-state field-day, the meeting adjourned.

### Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

Prof. Fossler lectured before the Christian Associations of the University Sunday afternoon on "A Study of the Book of Job." After an introduction on the "Old Testament" in general and how it should be studied, the professor took up the Book of Job. He gave a very scholarly analysis of the book and showed its meaning.

There will be no lecture next Sunday afternoon, owing to the injury of Prof. Brace. The next lecture will be a week from Sunday. The subject will be announced later.

There will be a joint missionary meeting of the two associations Sunday afternoon at 4 p. m. The subject to be introduced will be "Medical Missions."

The Y. M. and Y. W. C. A.'s are planning to hold the second semester's reception on the evening preceding Charter Lay.

### Pals Receive.

The Palladians gave a very enjoyable reception last Saturday evening at the home of Miss Grace Cook on Third-third and S streets. About sixty members and friends were present and spent the evening with games and music. At a late hour a luncheon was served that had a dainty menu. The reception was given by the out-going officers to the incoming officers and reflected great credit on those having it in charge.

## PI BETA'S COME OUT

Another Girls' Fraternity Is Ushered In.

### HAS NINE CHARTER MEMBERS

Makes the Second One This Year—Initiation Held at Miss Sumner's Residence.

Fraternity people have been delighted by the addition of another girls' fraternity, the Pi Beta Phi, to the ranks of the Greeks.

Last week when it became known that the fraternity was a certainty preparations were made for welcoming the girls. On Saturday evening an informal reception was held at the residence of Mrs. W. S. Summers to enable the prospective Pi Beta Phi's to become acquainted with Mrs. Helen Sutliff, the grand chapter president, who had come from Lawrence, Kan., to establish a chapter in this university. After having a pleasant social time, and getting pointers on the goat, the dining room was thrown open and the girls partook of a charming lunch. They showed that their appetites had in no way been impaired by the stories they had heard.

On Monday evening the initiation took place at the home of Mrs. Summers, who is an alumni member of the fraternity. Six new girls took the oath, and three former members in other colleges, all forming charter members. About 11 o'clock the war-cry of Delta Tau Delta was heard and answered by the newly-learned Pi Beta Phi yell. Initiatory services were suspended and the boys trooped in to congratulate the new "frats." The house was prettily decorated with roses, and the colors, pale blue and wine, of the Beta Phi. After light refreshments the party broke up, the girls well pleased with their first taste of fraternity life. The initiates were Misses Bessie Turner, Kate Walker, Edna Carscadden, Lulu Wirt, Gertrude Wright, Jennie Barber, Ada Quaintance, Belle Reynolds, and May Lansing.

On Tuesday morning a lot of beautiful carnations mysteriously appeared, minus the name of the sender or senders, but the flowers were nevertheless appreciated.

### Will go to Ashland.

The Dramatic club will make its debut this evening at Ashland. The entertainment will be given under the auspices of the literary society of the high school. A reception and dinner is to be given the club by the Tri-Deltas at the home of Dr. Von Mansfield. Saturday evening February 2, the club will appear in Lincoln at the Funks. Already the various student organizations are falling all over each other to secure the boxes and best seats. To Mrs. Manning, our instructor in elocution, and director of the club is due, in a large degree, the success of the undertaking. She has labored long and patiently and has succeeded in bringing harmony out of confusion.

### Battalion Notes.

There will be no drill next week, on account of exams in the armory.

The new artillery books are just what were needed.

The officers' club met Wednesday night. Major Fehet will give a talk to the club at the next meeting.

The artillerymen threaten to strike if they have to drill out doors in the cold, any more.

The commandant is going to have a recitation in cadet regulations soon, under the company officers.

Miss Hyatt is engaged in making pictures for the next Flora.