

# THE NEBRASKAN.

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### GREETING.

(To Chancellor George E. MacLean.)  
Nebraska welcomes you, her skies  
As tender as a mother's eyes,  
Above you smile. Her prairie lands  
In endless welcome reach their hands;  
The sturdy west-wind sounds a note  
To greet; from every wild-bird's throat  
A major chord of joy will sound,  
A welcome in each flower be found,  
But not alone in lands and skies,  
In winds, in songs, and flower-eyes,  
But in Nebraska hearts you'll find  
The same free welcome; the western  
wind

Has taught Nebraska hearts to be  
As broad and hearty and as free  
To welcome, as its own broad sweep  
That wraps the prairies wide and deep,  
Then welcome to our midst today—  
The coming years we hope and pray  
May hold much joy—that through them  
all

You'll feel our hearts and hands a wall  
Surrounding you with hope and cheer  
To strengthen you each passing year.  
—WILLIAM REED DUNROY.

We recognize the honor that has been bestowed upon our institution by the inauguration of a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. But this new factor in our college life should not merit the paramount consideration which its installation has received. True scholarship should be recognized, it always is, but sometimes not publicly. The means at hand are not adequate for an infallible selection of the honored ones. Witness the cadet promotions. What dissatisfaction exists after they are made! Yet this department has far more accurate and reliable data than the bestowers of Phi Beta Kappa honors can secure. The varying conditions of student life make even an approximate estimation of the best college work difficult. That feeling of disappointment and discontent over the manner of distributing the honors is found to prevail. Of course, there is the bright side—a rather mercenary one, however. A new incentive to harder and better work has been provided. The results will no doubt be pleasing and beneficial to all concerned. Yet it will affect the ones who need it least. Our book worms will dig deeper, sit up later at night, take less exercise and generally get less enjoyment out of their college life. For what? Is it worth the price? May there will be disappointment in the end!

There is one way to take the matter, however, since it has come to stay with us. Do not strive for the honor. Do your work conscientiously without the hope of such an open reward. The honor and satisfaction will be the greater if it come to one as an acknowledgment of faithful work without ostentatious diligence. We will hail the fortunate ones with all honor—but there will be others not so fortunate whom we will place above them.

It's too bad that our theatre-goers are not in the habit of attending chapel. May be they might hear something personally applicable sometimes, and relieve others of a painful sensation.

However, the affair of last Saturday night has been greatly exaggerated. Because an uneducated juvenile Call reporter expressed what appeared to be an editorial opinion in a news item is no reason that it should be taken as the public sentiment. The report as published in this sheet contains not even a semblance of truth. It was a half column of fabrication. What would the writer have said about a much greater disturbance made by others than university students—an affair that occurs often. Not a word.

The boys who were concerned ought certainly to be censured. They should be given the benefit, however, of a true statement of the occurrence. We believe the participants are penitent and that a similar performance will not happen again. But we should not make a mountain out of a molehill.

The time for the meeting of the state oratorical association is near at hand. Is it not advisable that we take some action towards withdrawing? What are we to gain by continuing our membership in an association that is comprised largely of good sized high schools? Since Wesleyan has withdrawn, the competition for oratorical honors lies between Doane, Gates, Cotner and the state university. Our sister colleges do not propose to come up to our standard of learning, nor can it be expected. Their educational work, their style of oratory and, yes, the ultimate purpose of their existence, are primarily different. We may say with truth and with no charge of boastfulness, that our university ranks as a leader in the broader and better education of today. Then, if we are to discredit oratorical work, why not compete with those institutions who are nearer our standard? For, as the saying goes, "competition is the life of progress." It would be far better if we would continue our local or home contests than to remain a party to such shameful tactics as have characterized the state association in recent years. Some action on our part is imperative. Why delay? The sentiment of the student body is decidedly in favor of withdrawing. All that is necessary is merely to take action. If our delegates desire instruction, it should be promptly given. The indications of perfecting a league between several state universities are quite favorable. Our efforts should be directed towards that end which is for the brightest and best in college life. True oratory can be better fostered in our own institution than by seeking the aid of these two by four denominational colleges. If we withdraw it will not be at our discredit or dishonor. We have won the state contest three times in succession. In spite of this our connection with the state association has been fruitful of little good. Why not take a decisive step towards withdrawal while a favorable opportunity is presented?

The university must keep in touch with popular ideals. Professor Fling realizes that when he suggests the expediency of university students assisting or giving an impetus to the organization of clubs in their home towns, designed especially to take up some field of knowledge. Such associations would be a power for good. A field would be opened whose harvest would enrich the general public. It may be the basis for a movement like the proposed university extension plan. But is the suggestion practical? It certainly is. Its success depends on the push, vim and vigor of each individual student. Look at the many organizations for special study in our large cities. Clubs pertaining to science, art, history, literature and the like have been formed to aid in providing as thorough education as possible. They are doing a great work for higher education. Why may not energetic students with the advantages of a college course, render valuable service of a like nature in their home towns? Not every young man or woman is free to seek a systematic training. Multitudes are tied to daily toil and only in the evening can they consider their own enlargement. Many have little craving for knowledge. There ought to be a sense of pity for those who are in any way deprived of a college training. Possibly such clubs would arouse a general desire for knowledge and be able to satisfy this desire more cheaply than a college course, although in a more imperfect manner. There are many in our own state who are waiting for such an opportunity. Those who become members of the club may pursue a systematic course of study and have now and then a lecture from college professors.

It is said the actual results in such a system of education may not be large. But it would be a popular movement, composite and inspiring. The mind would be set in motion. People would think of something to talk about beside their neighbors. An impetus would be

given to higher education. Studious thought and a feeling of a common humanity would be the ultimate end, if properly carried on. In attaining the end we should seek to reach those who are prepared for instruction in the higher grades of study. Clubs or institutes composed of such members should be encouraged in thickly populated communities. To whom do the people look for leaders or proposers of such plans? Not elsewhere than to our colleges and universities. The promised success of the Cass county institute is only an inkling of what might be done in higher education by somewhat crude methods.

The plan Professor Fling suggests is as much a social as an educational movement. It would be a potent educational agency and furnish a serviceable system of instruction. Although it may be of slow growth, university students could not manifest their sympathy in a better or nobler cause. All to be feared is that our professors may slightly withdraw their attention from their college work and be induced to put their souls elsewhere. If such should happen, the good done would not atone for the loss. But however that may be, the Nebraskan hopes the suggestion may receive the consideration it merits.

### WOMAN'S CREW AT CORNELL.

The women of Cornell university have a lengthy petition before the athletic council, asking that the regular Cornell coach, Mr. Courtney, be permitted to instruct them in rowing. If the petition is granted, undoubtedly one and possibly several additional crews will be for the purpose of promoting boating for the pleasure and health of the women of the university. The plan, so far as matured, is to secure a safe boat, erect a boat house and foster rowing interests among the women, all of whom will be privileged to use the boats.

The women only ask from the council Mr. Courtney's assistance in training, as other plans are in progress for perfecting details. Mr. Courtney is willing to coach them, in so far as it does not interfere with his regular crew work.

For the past two years the matter of a crew has been agitated, but until this year the obstacles seemed too great. There is much enthusiasm among the women and President Schurman and other faculty members are in favor of the plan suggested. The Wesleyan crew will be taken as a pattern since rowing at that institution is a decided success.—Ex.

In the beginning man was created with a funny-bone, and to this day he laughs in his sleeve. He is the only animal that laughs except woman, who at present laughs more than man, perhaps on account of her sleeves.—Ex.

Mary had a little lamb,  
It followed her each day,  
Till Mary put the bloomers on,  
And then it ran away.—Ex.

Student (to servant): "I thought you had finished sweeping my room." Boston Servant Girl: "Beg pardon, sir, I was just decomposing." Student: "What?" Servant Girl: "I was returning to dust."—Ex.

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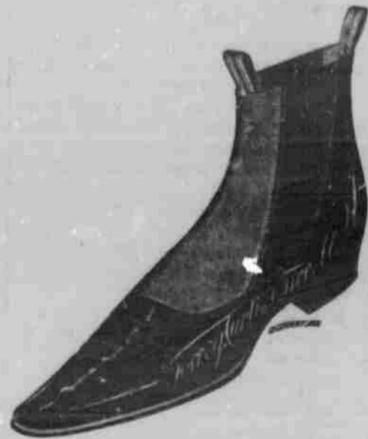
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