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AN ALUMNI CONFERENCE

Chancellor Entertains the Graduates Royally at His Residence.

THEY TALK MATTERS OVER

The Chancellor and Members of the Alumni Discuss the Urgent Needs of the University—The Seniors are Entertained.

Chancellor and Mrs. MacLean entertained the alumni who reside in Lincoln, on Monday evening. The first part of the evening was spent in renewing old friendships and getting acquainted with the more recent or the earlier graduates. Then the chancellor invited the guests some eighty or ninety in number to ascend to mingle with the gods and goddesses. On the third floor was found everything arranged for a conference and the chancellor proceeded to state details on the needs and condition of the university.

He pointed out the details of the appropriation which the regents would ask for from the incoming legislature showing just how each need was imperative and the amounts asked for really insufficient. He showed how critical a place the university had reached in its history, when a failure to provide properly for its present maintenance means that it will fall behind the universities with which it is classed, and fall to give the education which the men and women of the state are demanding. Point after point was placed clearly before the alumni in order that there should be intelligent knowledge of the facts, and not in any sense with the intention of having any lobbying done. Simply a presentation of the facts as they are must obtain from the legislature the appropriation asked for, which is \$12,000 less than the amount actually appropriated by the last legislature in a time of drought.

The imperative need of more room to relieve the crowded conditions brought about a general discussion among the alumni as to the kind of building which would best relieve the strain.

It was decided to appoint an alumni committee which shall disseminate information to the alumni over the state with the aim of placing before the legislators the simple facts of the conditions.

All then descended to partake of the refreshments which Mrs. MacLean was waiting to dispense.

37 ENTERTAINED.

Chancellor and Mrs. MacLean entertained the members of the senior class at their home, 1037 H street, Saturday night. Owing to the conflicting entertainments only seventy-five of the 104 members of 37 responded to the chancellor's kind invitation to visit his home and become better acquainted with the head of the university and his wife, as well as with various members of the class. The chancellor and wife, assisted by Miss Nellie Griggs, president of the class, and Mr. William Grant, vice-president, received the guests as they arrived, and made all feel at home. Each one "registered" by signing his or her name to a book provided for the purpose. Then the chancellor conducted the seniors to his large assembly room on the third floor and introduced the game of progressive conversation for the purpose of insuring the acquaintance of each member of the class with one another. All declared the game a success. In the university, even with so many departments and divisions of classes, it is strange that classmates can go up to their senior year and not know each other. Yet it sometimes happens. It would be a happy circumstance indeed if progressive conversation parties or something similar were introduced annually in all the lower classes. The memory of four years' university life would be more pleasant thereby. After each senior had passed one minute of lively conversation with the seventy-four others, the chancellor invited them to partake of refreshments which were daintily served below. It was toward midnight when the seniors extended cordial thanks to Chancellor and Mrs. MacLean for their generous hospitality and for a most pleasant evening's entertainment.

REGENTS DINE.

The board of regents visited the state farm Tuesday afternoon, and spent the time in a general tour of inspection. At the invitation of the chancellor and his wife, with addition of Governor Holcomb they dined at his residence. The evening was pleasantly spent. Toasts were

enjoyably responded to by the guests as follows: "The State of Nebraska," Governor Holcomb; "The University of Nebraska," Regent C. H. Morrill; "Omaha and the Trans-Mississippi Exposition," Regent Victor Rosewater; "Northwest Nebraska," Regent Charles Weston; "The School System of the State," Regent H. L. Gould; "The Ladies of the State," Mrs. Holcomb; "The President of the Board of Regents," Mrs. C. H. Morrill; "Southwestern Nebraska," Regent C. W. Kaley; "Central Nebraska and the Farm School," Regent E. A. Hadley; "The Board of Regents," Secretary J. S. Dales.

PERSHING RIFLES BALL.

The third annual Pershing Rifles ball was given at the Lincoln hotel last Friday night and was attended by from thirty to forty couples. It is said by those who were fortunate enough to attend, that it was one of the pleasantest dances that has been given in later years. Many have been so accustomed to dancing on a crowded floor at university functions, that a two step on a floor comfortably filled seemed a great novelty. The music was particularly catchy, the "Henrietta" two-step being the favorite of the evening. Captain and Mrs. Gullfoyle led the great march. Those present were: Miss Miss Bartlett of Omaha, Miss Catlin of Ashland, Captain and Mrs. Gullfoyle, Professor and Mrs. Richards, Professor and Mrs. Kimball, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Copeland; Misses Raymond, Lau, Hammond, Brown, Elliott, Lowe, Ena and Mabel Ricketts, Griggs, Cropsey, Harley, Risser, Parks, Vancil, Millar, Wright, Cook, DuTiel, Anthony, Sarah and Emily Weeks, Norene, Hargreaves, Lansing, McFarland, Lytle, Richards, Tuttle, Carson, Polk, Gere, Messrs. Saxton, Dobraiva, Lehnhoff, Manley, Weeks, Robbins, Oury, McCreary, Davenport, Linguest, Ricketts, Wilson, Shuff, Risser, Haggard, Woadner, Clements, Elting, L. H. Robbins, Korsmeyer, Morrison, Robinson, Hedge, Parks, Hutchinson, Bolnap, Wigenhorn, Shedd, Lau, Raymond, Shaw, Sumner, and Westerman. Ralph Saxton was master of ceremonies.

BASKET BALL.

Basket ball is becoming a popular game now that football is over and baseball is still a thing for future days. Doctor Clark has put the game on a thorough basis and many are now playing it for the sport as well as for the exercise, that is found in the active game. While the amount of weight and strength are not required it is adapted to all kinds of athletes. The game has found success among the ladies and is being played a great deal.

The Reds and Whites of the eight o'clock division played a match game last Tuesday evening. Both sides played well, especially in the interference work. During the first half the Whites played a little the stronger game and got a good lead, but the opening of the second half resulted in the Reds piling up a score tying the Whites before they had secured another point. It was not long before the Whites by Stebbins' excellent playing made 24 points by the time the referee called time. Those doing especially good playing were: Stebbins, McComb, Kyle, Griffith and Anderson.

The following played: Reds; Moore, Kyle, Theobald, Smith, Hastie; Whites; Griffith, McComb, Stebbins, Anderson and Hill. The final score was: Whites 21, Reds, 14. Doctor Clarke was referee, Dennison and Warfield acted as umpires, and Wetzel, scorer. Twenty minute halves were played.

FROM THE LAW COLLEGE.

Cyrus O. Brown re-entered the college of law this week, taking up the senior work.

O. W. Belden, Clee Tucker, and M. O. Cunningham were delegates to the state Y. M. C. A. convention from their home associations.

President Dennison of the Junior class has appointed the following committee on colors, motto and yell: Cunningham, Tucker, and Belden.

The Maxwell club discussed the Cuban question Saturday evening. Sackett and Kamp posed as sympathizers with the rebels, while Warfield and Jones told why the United States should not interfere. The debate was unquestionably the most elaborate and logical in the club this semester.

Extemporary speaking was dispensed with and the election of officers for the second term was taken up. Abbot and Greene were chosen president and vice-president respectively after an hour of wrangling. The janitor turned out the lights at 10:15, and the flow of all gas stopped naturally.

WHAT WE'VE TO HOPE FOR

Nebraska Will Have the Winning Team Next Year.

SOME PREMATURE FIGURING

If Nebraska Realizes Anything of what now Looks Probable, She Will Have a Winning Team—Most of the old Men to Return.

Although this is rather early in the season to be talking on what sort of a team Nebraska will have next year, yet this is being done to quite an extent. Perhaps this is because the boys want something to aid them in forgetting the fact that Nebraska did not get the pennant this year. Anyway the outlook is most fascinating, and it gives them quite a feeling of satisfaction to figure it out.

If promises count for anything and if the players are not prevented from carrying out their present intentions, there will be no reason in the world why Nebraska cannot walk away with the cup next year. The secret of Iowa's success this season, was because she had all her old players back with one exception, while Nebraska had to manufacture a team during the busy part of the season. Next year she will hope to start with a team.

Wiggins will undoubtedly be back and play his position of right end. Pearse is a freshman, and intends to graduate in the class of 1900. Unless something unforeseen happens, he will show up next September as a candidate for his old position. Turner will be a junior next year. He has the right football spirit now, and will undoubtedly be one of the first candidates on the field next season. Hanson is pretty sure of being on deck to try for his position of guard. He will make a strong man for this place next year. For tackle on the left side, Will Dungan will probably try for. He filled this position very creditably this year. Melford, center for this year, will be back. He may try for the position of tackle. Harry Jones and Benedict will be strong candidates for left end, though Harry is apt to secure a place behind the line. There is good material for the backs. Thorpe of course if he is back, will play the position that has made him famous this year. There is not much doubt but that Orle will show up at the beginning of the season next year. There is some question as to Shedd's return next year. He will be a junior next year, but may not return till year after next to continue his work. He intends to remain out of college one year before he finishes, and whether he will choose next year is doubtful. Garrett and Cook, both will probably be back next year. They have shown up so well this season, that there seems no doubt but that both can make the team next year. Besides some good second eleven men who will try for places next year, some good men from other colleges will enter the university.

Lee, the famous guard of the Doane team is among these. Gilbert and Leonard, the two best men on the Wesleyan team, will probably enter, which places two more good men on the list. Golden of Nebraska City may come back, but it is very doubtful. There are a number of men from some of the high schools of the state, who will make formidable candidates for positions. Nebraska City and Falls City, are being counted upon to furnish some good men. These high schools worked up some good team work this season. W. W. Wilson, captain and left guard of last year's team this season coached the Nebraska City high school boys. The Omaha and Lincoln high schools will probably send the university some more good material.

A WORD FROM THE COACH.

Coach Robinson is still in Lincoln engaged in thinking over what he is going to do. Many of his friends here are trying to induce him to stay in Nebraska, and enter the law college. He has a place in view in an eastern law office, but has written them that he would not be there to take it till January 1. He says that he will know by Saturday what he intends to do. When asked if he would accept the position of coach for next year, he replied that he did not know whether he would coach next year or not. He is quite pleased with his treatment here, and he hinted that if the material for a good team would be on hand, he would like to coach the men and see what he could do if he had something to work on. He expressed himself as much satisfied with the work of the men this season,

but says plainly that he did not have the material to work on that the other coaches of the league teams had. There is hardly a question among the students, but that Mr. Robinson will be offered the position again for next year. It is only a question of his acceptance.

REGENTS MEET.

Transact Lots of Business Relative to the University—Orator Selected.

The regents met and transacted a great deal of business at their regular December meeting which was held Tuesday and Wednesday. All the regents were present. This is the last meeting at which Victor Rosewater will appear.

Besides passing on the budget and going over the outline of the biennial report, the board, among other things approved recommendations of the chancellor promoting H. B. Ward to a full professorship of zoology and the employment of Hans Christian Petersen as instructor in English literature, to fill out the second semester.

Tuesday, February 16 was set aside for the Charter day exercises, to be preceded Monday evening by the electrical exhibit. President Franklin Carter of Williams college was chosen to deliver the oration, while brief addresses will be made by members of the state legislature and state government. For commencement orators the selection of Edward Everett Hale of Boston was approved and an invitation extended to Hon. James M. Woolworth of Omaha, president of the American Bar association, to deliver the annual law school address.

Bachelor degrees were conferred upon Lawrence B. Pillsbury, William R. Hart, Elias Lyman and Charles Fordyce.

Appropriations were also made for certain repairs and other minor expenditures. The offer of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Prickett of Pomona, Cal., of a gift to the university of 169 acres of land in Red Willow county, Nebraska, said to be worth in the neighborhood of \$1,800, was referred to the executive committee to investigate the desirability of accepting the same and the legality of the transfer as proposed. The estimated resources for the coming biennial period as submitted to the board were: three-eighths of mill tax, \$127,500; interest in permanent university fund, \$18,000; interest on university land, \$65,000; laboratory cash deposits, \$6,000; law school tuition, \$8,000; matriculation and diploma fees, \$4,000; experiment station fund, \$30,000; Morrill fund, \$47,000; total \$306,000.

It was reported to the board that the resolution passed by the faculty of the university of Nebraska last spring, asking for a conference of state university presidents, is just coming to its fruition. Such a conference will be held at Madison, Wis., upon the invitation of President Adams on January 6. Such subjects as entrance requirements and requirements for degrees will be taken at that conference. It is not unlikely that athletics may receive some attention. The chancellor reported that official inquiries from the heads of departments showed that the expenditure for textbooks is made as reasonable as possible. It was deemed best to make some further inquiry concerning laboratory fees to see if they could be further reduced and to have a distinct publication of the amounts required.

A letter was received from Thomas Rawlings, the new regent, explaining that he was detained from sitting as a visitor at this meeting of the board by illness in the family of his brother.

When the board adjourned it was understood that the executive committee would meet the faculty at 5 o'clock to report to them on the subject of buildings, in which the faculty had shown great interest. At the last moment it was found that only Regent Kaley could attend the faculty meeting. He read the following motion from the minutes of the board:

"Moved, that the board ask for \$30,000 for the wing of a building to afford general relief to the pressure for lecture and recitation rooms, said building to be used ultimately as a departmental building for the college of the mechanic arts."

Mr. Kaley explained that the present crowded condition of the buildings demanded the addition of one that should serve temporarily as a relief building, while it would be primarily a wing for the college of mechanic arts. It was felt that the legislature would appreciate the need of such a building.

Professor Sweezy has received eight new books on astronomy to be placed in the observatory library. Among them is a work on the sun, another on the moon, and a very interesting treatise on Mars.

DATE SET FOR THE FINALS

A Week From Saturday Will Be the Night of Oratory.

WHAT THREE GOES TO KANSAS

The Finals Promise to be the Most Interesting and Entertaining event of this semester yet held—The Men are Working Hard.

The final debate promises to be the most instructive and entertaining event of this semester. The eight debaters have spared no time and study in getting a thorough understanding of the subject under discussion. They have all determined to be one of the three men who shall be selected to go to Kansas next May. Is there any reason to infer there will not be a warmly contested debate? Certainly the volumes of books and magazines which have been ransacked indicate nothing of the kind. There is every reason to believe that the final debate this year will be of higher grade in every respect than those of past years. For the debaters have shown more interest and more genuine enthusiasm than usual in the Kansas-Nebraska debate. They are desirous of seeing that we are well represented and that the next joint debate will add another laurel to our last year's victory.

The question for debate is: Resolved that the law enacting power of Great Britain is superior to that of the United States. The speakers on the affirmative are Messrs. McGuire, Dennison, Barr and Baker; and on the negative are, Green, Piper, Meier and Killen. Every one of these debaters reflected credit upon themselves in the preliminaries, and they will certainly do the best they are capable of doing in the finals. The debating association hopes that the faculty and student body will take enough interest in the debate to be present and insure a large and enthusiastic audience. Come out and greet the boys in their efforts after their many days of hard work in preparation. It's a duty which every one owes to a worthy student organization. The time and money spent will be thrice repaid.

The judges will consist of the following members of the faculty: Messrs. Adams, Caldwell, Taylor, Reese and Wolf. The decision will be announced at the close of the debate. In addition to the debate there will be good musical talent which alone is worth hearing. Let every student engage Saturday evening December 19, as the date to cheer and encourage the debaters.

MRS. SAWYER'S ADDRESS.

Mrs. A. J. Sawyer addressed the members of the political economy club, in room 23 library building Tuesday evening. A fair sized audience heard her address, which was very interesting and scholarly. Her subject was, "Some Causes of the Present Social Discontent."

The speaker divided the causes of discontent into three heads. First, the individual causes; second, the industrial causes and third the civic causes.

Under the individual causes it was urged that there was an ignorance of government, of liberty and of economic forces. That this is due principally to a false idea of education. We educate our sons to be "somebody." That we are educating selfishness. "Americans," said the speaker, "have the gold disease. We should teach our children that the true object of life is not the dollar, but happiness."

Mrs. Sawyer thought much of our industrial discontent due to immigration. She also thought inventions and appliances had deranged distribution by creating more wants than they satisfy. The speaker thought that by educating popular appreciation much of this could be remedied by legislation.

When the civic causes were reached a strong plea was made for a purer and better government. Mrs. Sawyer urged that there should be a more general understanding of economic forces in order for the people not to be misled by the demagogue. "Paternalism," said the speaker, "is political and social paralysis."

The unsightly row of benches which in years past have served as open lockers for the new student who was not supposed to have sense enough to resist from leaving his belongings in them, have been removed. Consequently the skin remains on the proper place of the nether portion of the anatomy of divers students and professors, who have been heard to murmur curses not loud but deep, as a sudden turn lurched them against one of those sharp corners.