

# THE NEBRASKAN.

A Weekly Newspaper Issued Every Friday Noon, by the Students of the University of Nebraska.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter.

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The Nebraskan will be sent to any address upon receipt of the subscription price, which is one dollar a year, or fifty cents a semester.

Contributions are solicited from all. News items such as locals, personals, reports of meetings etc. are especially desired. The Nebraskan will be glad to print any contribution relative to a general university subject, but the name must accompany all such.

Address all communications to The Nebraskan, University of Nebraska.

NOTICE—All subscriptions should now be paid and collection will be commenced accordingly. Any one wishing to avoid the inconvenience of being "dunned", should notify the business manager before January 15.

From all that can be learned, the other colleges of the state are leaving to the students of the university of Nebraska, the task of defeating the anti-football bill. The Nebraskan wishes to suggest to its exchanges, that we are not the "only shirt in the laundry" if we do think so and students of other colleges should talk the matter over with senators and representatives from their district.

There are hardly requisite words in the English language that are competent to express the amount of ridicule the average fraternity man would like to unload, at the resolution introduced into the house of representatives by Hyatt of Platte. To attempt to check the great American college Greek letter fraternity system, is laughable in the extreme. The system has been in vogue for several years, but the ridiculous reasons set forth by Mr. Hyatt for abolishing fraternities from the university of Nebraska, well just imagine. The only reason that the gentleman has, that appears on the surface, is, that if Major McKinley is a frat man, that is enough to condemn the system in his eyes.

Next Tuesday evening the political economy club and we might say, the university is to be favored with a lecture by Dr. Victor Rosewater. His subject, "The Difficulties of City Charter Making" is deserving of study by every student. No one is more competent to present this complicated problem of municipalities than Mr. Rosewater. And it is to be hoped that the students generally will seize the opportunity of hearing this important subject handled in a scholarly manner. The political economy club has been doing effective work in the line of procuring good lectures upon the live topics of the day, and the club urges that the students, regardless of whether they are members or no, should patronize the lectures. No one can fail to get some ideas worthy of serious thought. The work of the club is in connection with the university work proper, and everyone ought to appreciate the opportunities it offers.

There are a few of our brightest students who persist in utilizing the class hour with unnecessary questioning and tedious discussions with the professors. This may be all well enough for the parties concerned, but it is decidedly wearisome and unproductive to the rest of the class. We go to the class room to hear the professor lecture and not to listen to a dialogue upon a favorite topic of some particular student. The class as a whole loses interest and some of its members even become drowsy. The student who wants to display his intellectual attainments before the class must bear in mind that he is doing it at the patience of his classmates. A sensible questioning is always allowable and certainly appreciated. Even a terse and lucid discussion may be, at times wise and appropriate. But in some classes these privileges are carried to the extreme, until they are productive of more harm than good. Remember there is a limit at which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. If the professor has anything to say, we want to hear it, and not the ideas of some particular student. It is not always the student who does the most talking in the class room that best understands the subject studied.

The Nebraskan certainly appreciates the interest the members of the legisla-

ture are taking in the welfare of the university. But it fails to see the necessity of expending energy and time in considering the wisdom and expediency of certain college customs and practices. These are matters which are purely of a local nature and undoubtedly come within the province of the university authorities. If customs and organizations prevail among the students which to some are ethically wrong, there is no one who will sooner realize it than the faculty. We doubt the advisability of bringing college doings into the domain of legislation, unless it is an urgent necessity for our preservation and development. The anti-fraternity bill was certainly introduced without forethought and investigation on the part of the author. To bring such a question into the realm of politics is uncalled for and produces unnecessary commotion. We do not doubt the right of the legislators to look into all college practices. To be sure, some eastern colleges have been accustomed to bolsterousness and in fewer instances allowed college spirit to go so far as committing acts which are disgraceful to an institution of learning. But this does not hold true with western universities. The students of the latter always have had a loftier conception of college doings. We are far from criticizing the action of the legislators in university affairs, if their policy is conducive to greater efficiency in educational work.

## A DARWINIAN'S MEMORY.

Methinks I have a faint remembrance of my youth

When I a protozoan, swam a green be-mantled pool,

And darted with my tiny tadpole cousins through

The pond, the loliest one among the wriggling school.

Sometimes we roved among the tangled, slimy weeds,

Again we basked in some big lily's silver bowl

Where rich perfumes would well nigh smother us with sweets

And there we'd rock above the water's ruffled roll.

Then ages after, I recall another day,

When I had older grown, and swam the surging sea

A sprawling crab, or flipped and sidled on the sand

When some big fish, with horrid maw would make for me.

And when the coast was clear, I'd sometimes take a dive

To view the wonders of the weedy wandering deep.

And out of mischief, tickle some big octopus

Beneath his arms, as he lay fast in watery sleep.

I faintly recollect a myriad other shapes

Wherein I grew through ages to a higher plane,

Sometimes in feathers clad, or in a hairy coat

I roamed in divers climes on land and storm tossed main.

And yet once more my mind turns back but not so far,

When I with many hairy mates in forest glades,

Plucked half-ripe coconuts for my chimpanzee bride.

And swung from tree to tree amidst the gloomy shades.

We had a cozy home within a banyan tree—

And sometimes called upon the nearby chattering apes;

We had a slight acquaintance with the savage tribes

That roamed beneath our tree in bronzy, shining shapes.

The myriad former states that I have occupied

Since first I wriggled in my pseudo-podlar state,

Still come to haunt me like a misty, fading dream;

The future also haunts me with its hidden fate.

I cannot tell what higher form I'll occupy.

What future link I'll make in life's ascending chain.

But that great law which, guided me through ages that are gone

Will never let my upward struggling be in vain.

WILLIAM REED DUNROY.

## COLLEGE NOTES.

Secretary Olney has been invited to take the chair of international law in the Harvard law school.

Twenty-two American colleges and universities now belong to the association that supports the American school at Athens.

The Kansas university athletic association is \$1,100 in debt. They are going to try to wipe it out by giving a play, "The Rivals."

At the junior promenade given by the class of '98, of Ann Arbor, 264 couples participated. Dancing continued from 9:45 p. m. to 4:30 a. m. The regular program consisted of twenty numbers and ten extras were danced.

A new debating league comprising the

universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, Chicago and Northwestern has been formed. The new compact is to go into effect in 1898, as at present all the principals are connected with other debating leagues. Harvard and Yale are again united. After a wearisome period of secret negotiations, the two universities have reached a definite understanding and for five years at least, the crimson and blue will contend on water, track and field, just as they did in the good old days before the breach was made in the summer of 1895. The final agreement directly resulted from the visit of Walter Camp of Yale to Dr. William A. Brooks, jr., of Harvard, Saturday evening. After several hours' conference, these two delegates of the athletic interests of the two leading universities, signed the following agreement: "It is hereby agreed by and between the Harvard and the Yale athletic management that there shall be annual contests in rowing, football, baseball and track athletics between the representative organizations of Yale and Harvard beginning March 1, 1897, and ending March 1, 1902, the details of these contests to be left to the managers and captains."

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