

# THE NEBRASKAN.

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

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter.

F. T. Riley - - - - - Managing Editor  
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R. H. Baker - - - - - Editorial  
Kate Snow Walker - - - - - Fraternities  
Oliver Chambers - - - - - Local  
E. Meliza - - - - - Local  
Sam Sloan - - - - - Y. M. C. A.

Reporters.  
A. E. Parmelee - - - - - H. F. Gage  
Edith Schwartz - - - - - Ass't M'g'ing Ed.

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.

The university is materially interested in the bills before the legislature concerning the granting of state certificates to teachers. The private as well as the state normal schools arrogate to themselves all the qualifications necessary for graduate students to get a life teachers' certificate. Is it possible that they have reached the standard of education put in vogue at the university? Is it desirable and is it wise to place all the private and state normal schools upon a par in this matter? The granting of state certificates to teachers is a matter of no slight importance to the public school system of Nebraska. The efficiency of the teachers depends largely on the readiness and ease with which applicants get certificates. The university graduates are certainly entitled to the privileges of a state teachers' certificate, if training and scholarship count for anything. We regret that our legislators fail to draw any distinction whatever between the efficiency of private and state schools in this respect. We certainly deprecate the favor with which the request of the private normal schools has been received. This is a more grave question than a matter of mere revenue to state normals. It is one which vitally affects the standing and growth of the public schools.

Recently two professors, heads of departments, took occasion to criticize members of advanced classes on account of their spelling. These students were mostly juniors and seniors. On the other hand an instructor whose students are in the earlier years of the college course, has made the statement that hardly a single paper handed in this year was free from errors in spelling.

From these data we draw two conclusions: First, the students of the university do not know how to spell when they come here; and second, they do not overcome this defect during their college course. Primarily, of course, the blame for this state of affairs must rest on the common schools of the state. If the child is not taught to spell in the grades, the chances are against his ever acquiring this ability. But the argument is advanced that words are only the signs of ideas and so long as we have the ideas, the words are of little consequence. This reasoning is superficial and illogical. In the first place, it cannot be said that we really know a thing unless we can express it accurately and exactly; again, granting for the moment that spelling is a minor matter, the principle is involved that it is only by careful attention to details that we ever acquire the ability to handle greater affairs. We must not forget that irate saying that "Whatever is worth doing, is worth doing well." Lastly we must insist that spelling is an important matter. Suppose that our professors paid no attention to their orthography, suppose that the writers for newspapers, authors, and all who write for publication should neglect this part of their work, in what hopelessness would our literature become involved.

But what has all this to do with the university? It is impossible to have classes in spelling here. True, but the students who go from here every year to the public schools of the state can do much to correct this defect if they only will.

To be sure, some will undoubtedly have to devote some time to training themselves before they can teach others, but results will amply repay the labor demanded.

There appears to be danger that the training for the field day may drag from this time on, as has been the case in the past two years. Now that the indoor con-

test is over, the coming track events should furnish sufficient motive for keeping up the training. Arrangements are being made for a joint field day with Doane and Wesleyan, as well as for our own annual event. It seems a pity that those who have gotten themselves in good condition by the indoor training of the past weeks should lose all that they have gained by stopping now.

A reason which students of the university have not yet learned is that the really best mental work cannot be done with the muscular in poor condition. In the desire born of necessity to accomplish the utmost in a given time, many students are taking eighteen, twenty or even twenty-two hours of mental work with no compensating muscular exercise. But this is no more economy than is the constant drawing upon the principle laid by in the bank. Rest itself is not more necessary to the well being of the body, than is exercise, and more and better mental work can be done when the muscles are vigorous, circulation brisk and the blood well oxygenated. A reasonable amount of time is not lost. It is more than saved in the improved quality and vigor of the mental work done. The evening 6 o'clock class in the gymnasium will be continued if a sufficient number express a desire to carry it on. All who have field day in mind, should certainly take advantage of this.

Uncle: "Bobby, I suppose you've been a good little boy." Bobby: "No, I haven't." Uncle: "Why, I hope you haven't been very bad." Bobby: "Oh, no; just comfortable."—Truth.

Not Half Bad—Johnnie's Teacher: "And now, Johnnie, tell me what the last commandment is." Johnny (a street car tourist): "Please don't spit on the floor."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Freshlight, too: "James, how does the button come into my salad?" James (the waiter): "Oh! dat am pah't oh de dressin', sah."—Princeton Tiger.

Mr. Dyer: "Where is the bargain counter?" The Poor Walker: "There are several. What are you looking for?" Mr. Dyer: "I am looking for my wife."—Life.

Society Trials: "That pawnbroker's children seem to wear a great deal of jewelry." "Yes; it nearly kills me to see his twelve-year-old boy strutting around with my watch on."—Life.

He: "I suppose your father understands that I am not going to marry the rest of the family." She (one of many sisters): "He says that is the only thing that troubles him."—Detroit Free Press.

"It is queer how spring affects us." "What is queer?" "We don't get an elastic gait until we leave our rubbers."—Chicago Record.

He: "What if the theatre should take fire?" She: "Mercy! I suppose I should become confused and forget where the mirrors are."—Detroit Journal.

St. Louis proposes to establish a church for bicyclists exclusively. It hopes by that means to induce them to do all their scorching this side of the river Styx.—Chicago Times-Herald.

"Do you think Skinner can make a living out there?" "Make a living! Why, he'd make a living on a rock in the middle of the ocean—if there was another man on the rock."—Tit-Bits.

I remember so distinctly scorching down the road, the long level dusty road, where the weeds thickly fence the way on either side, with the scared pig scotching for dear life just ahead of my forward wheel.

I remember how I delighted in following him closer and closer and yelling at him in the loud exultation of my greater power, and the way in which a squeal of terror answered every yell of mine. It amused me hugely to see how straight and stiff his uncurled tail pointed obliquely skyward—I imagined I heard the hot breeze whistling over its bristled point.

I remember how I despised his hulking graceless gait in view of the rhythmic motion of my exuberant speed. I despised his gait and I despised the pig for it, and I remember how I yelled one more fierce cry of scorn, and I am most prone to recollect how at that wild sound the beast, swerved on his hind legs, as on a pivot, directly in front of my flying wheel. And then—and then—but I remember no more.

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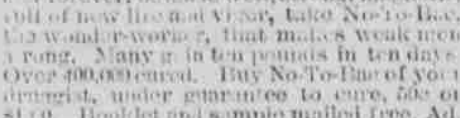
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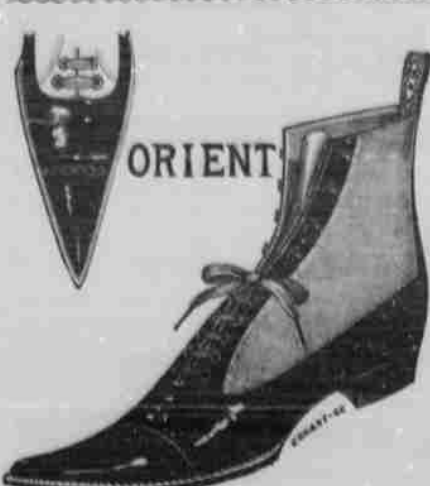
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