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ROBBY'S FAREWELL WORDS

Nebraska's Favorite Coach Writes of His Favorite Team.

GIVES A CRITICAL ESTIMATE

Tells What Each Man on the Team is Worth and Adds Some Words of Good Advice to Players

Coach E. N. Robinson, after having his departure announced several times, left for the east last Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 p. m. It was a matter of general regret that there was not a larger crowd at the depot to bid good bye to the man who has done so much for Nebraska athletics, but the time of his departure was not generally known, else there would have been a good delegation of students present to see him off. Before he left, Coach Robinson furnished the Nebraskan with a criticism of the team collectively and individually, mingled with several words of good advice. It is a pleasant relief from the general stereotyped form of football write-ups, and it is a critical estimate of the capabilities of the men and their prospects for next year, into which the writer has put his whole heart.

Taking a retrospective view of the season just past we can find much for congratulation, not only from the fact that the pennant was won and the team made the best record in the league of any team in the past, but most of all that the ethical standard of the team was so high. We have in the Nebraska team this fall probably the best example of a purely amateur team, playing the game for the love of it, that we can find in the country. This is a broad statement to make, but my experience in the east only strengthens this conclusion. There is hardly a team but has one or more men who play not only because they like the game, but because there is something in it besides glory, something more material. When such an element is part of a team it cannot help but deteriorate. Great progress has been made both in the east and west toward eliminating this kind of football, but Nebraska can certainly claim to be first in this respect. Looking at the team from a purely football point of view, the university has much to be proud of. The line is one of the best, if not the best, in the west and certainly has more than outplayed its opponents in every game. The backs have played a steady, persistent game and are as worthy of creditable mention. The conditions under which the season was commenced should not be lost sight of. Hitherto only practice had been indulged in on the campus, and the playing of games, especially league games, had not been tried. How successful the plan has been worked out is familiar to all. Great credit is due the management for successfully carrying out this scheme. The schedule has been rather limited as to the number of games, but it was arranged by the management with one object in view, to get the team in good condition to win the pennant, and we all know the result. Perhaps it would be well to give a short criticism of the members of the team. Criticism does not necessarily mean censure, but rather a critical estimate of each man's ability and his capabilities. Of course, the captain should come first, and in Shedd's work this fall it would be hard to find any cause for censure, for a large portion of the success of the team is due to his efforts. Playing a new position and one that was at first distasteful to him, he put aside all personal feeling and worked only for the good of the team. He is easily first choice for the all-western team and was the surest runner on the team. His defense work is good, but he was handicapped by an injury during the last of the season. Wiggins, the reliable right end, has played the best game of his career this

year. It is very seldom that a gain is made around his end and although handicapped somewhat by his light weight he is very successful in breaking up interference. He is one of the best men I ever saw in getting the ball on a fumble. Hansen, the silent man, has been one of the most faithful men this year and has made a marked advance over his last year's work. It is seldom that any gain is made through him. He has played a very steady, consistent game and with Turner should make the best pair of guards in the west. Turner, or "shorty," as he is familiarly known, has made the most progress of any man on the team, and now it would be hard to find his superior. He is strong in advancing the ball and good in defense work, but is especially good in getting out and tackling in the open field. Melford, the third one of the center trio, has not been behind in the good work done in the middle of the line. Although much lighter than the men he has met he has outplayed every man he has run up against. It is to be hoped that he will be found in his position at center next fall at the first of the season. He has been handicapped this year by lack of practice, but has played through the games with credit. Pearse did not like being shifted from the right to the left side of the line, but his work has not suffered in consequence. He and Benedict were the best trained men on the team and I wish he had ten brothers just like him. The only time I got discouraged this fall was one night when I saw Pearse "soldiering," but he only did it once. He plays as hard in practice as in a game and sets an example that the team would do well to follow. Hayward, or Bill, as we call him, has held up his end on the other side of the line. His work in the Kansas game was good enough to make any team, but Bill does not like to practice. If he would practice as hard as he plays no fault could be found with him. He bucks the line exceptionally well and is very good in interference. His tackling is fine and with Pearse we had two of the best tackling tacklers playing in the west. Stringer, the little boy who has held up the left end so well this season, has played a fine game. His work in getting down the field together with Wiggins in the Iowa game was as good as anything I ever saw. Both ends were on the man with the ball almost at the same time and almost no gain was made after receiving a punt. I am afraid, however, Stringer has not been trained as faithfully as he might, but I hope I am mistaken. Stringer has got an ideal physique for a football player and is fitted to fill any position on the team. His work in breaking up interference and getting the runner is noteworthy. With another year's experience he could make any team. Behind the line Benedict has played his first year at half, and I look for great things from him next year. He has been most faithful in his work and was one of the best trained men on the team. His work in the Iowa game earned him his place on the all-western team. Williams, who has played left half most of the season, has been very steady in his work, almost always good for a substantial gain. He averaged the best of anybody on the team in the first league game with Missouri. The only fault I find with him is lack of interest in practice work. Cowgill showed what he is capable of in the Iowa game, and should have done just as good work through the season, as he has great natural ability. If he had been pushed harder for his position it would have been better for him. He ought to be one of the best men in the west next year, as he is a fast runner, fine kicker, and good tackler. I hope he will practice harder next year. Schwartz did not come out the first of the season or he would have been in more games. His work in running down a broken field is exceptionally fine. He is a fast runner, uses his

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DEBATES BEGIN TONIGHT

First of Preliminary Contests in the Chapel This Evening.

INTEREST STILL KEEPS UP

Few of the Sixty Entered Have Dropped Out—Debates Continue Saturday and Monday Nights in the Society Halls.

The first of the preliminary debates to decide who will represent our university against Kansas, Colorado and Missouri, takes place in the chapel this evening. On Saturday evening the second, third and fourth divisions will debate in the three society halls. On Monday night of next week, the fifth, sixth and seventh divisions will compete in the society halls. Interest in the coming debates is very great, and the fact that some places are to be filled promises to make the contest a hot one. According to the registration for debates, there are just about sixty delegates in the university who are positive that they are the proper one to cross swords with Kansas, Colorado, and Missouri. Although registration for these debates closed some weeks ago, scarcely any of the original sixty who entered have signified their intention of dropping out voluntarily. The capacity of the halls in which the debates are to be held will doubtless be taxed to the utmost, as everybody is interested in seeing Nebraska win not only the football pennant, but forensic laurels as well.

Following is the schedule for the different divisions:

First division—Resolved, That President Jackson was justified in his attitude toward the bank of the United States. Affirmative, Berge, Pearson, Moyer and Stewart; negative, Deal, Sloan, McNaughton and Hutchinson.

Second division—Resolved, That the United States should annex Hawaii as a territory. Affirmative, Taylor, Kemp, Hager, and Goodwill; negative, Dennison, Lowrie, Griffith and Tellisen.

Third division—Resolved, That municipalities should own and control their natural monopolies. Affirmative, Pope, Meier, Maguire and Tucker; negative, Spencer, Waterman, Davies and Perry.

Fourth division—Resolved, That the income tax measure passed by the second session of the Fifty-third congress was just and equitable. Affirmative, Holderson, Sackett, Warner and Lee; negative, Frazier, Payne, Wessel and Miss Stull.

Fifth division—Resolved, That the radical is of greater importance to society than the conservative. Affirmative, Allen, Oury, Hawley and Anderson; negative, Landis, Edgerton, Eldem and O'Connell.

Sixth division—Resolved, That a permanent national board should be established for the compulsory arbitration of difficulties between employer and employees. Affirmative, Coke, Garber, Matson and Ayer; negative, Kunz, Burleigh, Burch and Hilton.

Seventh division—Resolved, That the United States would be justified in extending belligerent rights to Cuba. Affirmative, Toby, Bollinbach, Dittmir, and Dassenbrock; negative, Kinton, Ewart, Kindler and Baker.

SKATING PROSPECTS.

The proposed Uni. Skating Club is meeting with universal approval. The financial part of the scheme is now on a safe footing, as enough students have pledged support to defray the expenses of building the rink. The present cold wave will certainly add enthusiasm and members. The skaters are getting impatient, but are confident of success. All the different athletic interests of the university favor the building of a rink. There seems to be no reason why a skating rink if properly managed should not be able to turn a good many needed dollars into the treasury of the athletic association.

CAPTAIN MELFORD.

The members of the football team met in room 3 last Tuesday to elect a captain for the ensuing year. W. C. Melford was the successful candidate, and hereafter he will wear the title of captain prefixed to his already familiar name of Bill.

Melford has played three years on the 'Varsity team, filling the position of center. The last year he has played better than ever although he played in all of the league games, with scarcely any practice, he has almost invariably "played" with the opposing center. Now that he is captain Bill will doubtless get out and practice more regularly, and make every other player do the same. As he is popular with all the boys, he will be able to get good work out of the players. The outlook for the next season is bright and there seems to be no reason why we can't do it again in regard to the pennant. Captain Melford is certainly to be congratulated on the prospects for '98.

OFF FOR COLUMBIA.

Manager Oury left Lincoln yesterday for Columbia, Mo., where he goes as a delegate of this university to the annual meeting of the football league which will be held to-morrow. The regular routine business of awarding the pennant and settling the finances will be transacted. This being Nebraska's year at home, she has had to bear all the expenses of the officials for the game and various other incidentals. It is expected that Nebraska's treasury will be benefited to some extent when all this expense is equalized among the other universities of the league.

There is some possibility that the league may go to pieces, but every effort will be put forth to prevent its dissolution. An effort will also be made, in case the league holds together, to get Iowa back into it again and thus have a four-cornered contest. Although Iowa played both Kansas and Nebraska this year, technically she was not a member of the league, so it is hoped that she can be induced to re-enter next year.

Owing to the dissatisfaction with the officials this year, a new method may possibly be adopted of selecting the umpire and referee so as to do away with all kicking on that score. An attempt will also be made to have our game with Kansas played every year at Kansas City. Under the present system the home team makes the profits or stands the losses. If this new scheme is adopted, both teams will have a share in the profits each year and if there is any loss to be sustained it will not fall so heavily on one team.

Manager Oury expects to return Sunday evening.

JUNIOR PROM. COMMITTEE.

The junior class held a meeting Friday afternoon for the purpose of electing the junior promenade committee and chairman. Much interest had been aroused in this election and it was thought a lively scrap would be precipitated. However, it failed to materialize. What scuffling there was had been done outside and all the wires laid beforehand, so when the meeting was called, there was smooth sailing. The meeting lasted not more than two minutes. In this short space of time it was officially decided to have a junior prom, and then instead of electing the committee President Cramb was given the power to appoint the members of the committee, who will select the master of ceremonies. Every fraternity and society will doubtless have a representative on the committee. Roy Shick has been appointed chairman of the committee.

The following have been appointed members of the committee: Messrs. Shick, chairman; Whedon, Kind, Sawyer, Shuff, Bronn, Brown, Fechet, Mumford, Boomer; the Misses Harley, Stuart, Shank, Woods, McFarland. Roy Sawyer was elected last night by the committee as master of ceremonies.

THE NEW COMMANDANT

Lieut. John M. Stotsenburg Takes Charge of the Regiment.

HAS SEEN ACTIVE SERVICE

Ranks High in the List of First Lieutenants in the Army—Brief Sketch of His Military Career

Lieutenant John M. Stotsenburg, who was appointed to succeed the late Lieutenant A. B. Jackson, formally took charge of the regiment last Friday afternoon and Major Fechet relinquished his temporary command of the cadets. From information furnished The Nebraskan by those who are in a position to know, it is said that Lieutenant Stotsenburg ranks high in the list of first lieutenants in the United States army, and if he serves the usual period of four years here, he will doubtless be a captain long before that time expires. He has been in the army sixteen years and has seen considerable active service during that time.

The new commandant has already inaugurated several changes in his department. He has tackled the uniform problem with commendable vigor. The matter of equipping the cadets with new uniforms has been allowed to drag somewhat during the past month, but an order has been issued for all cadets to appear fully uniformed by the end of the holidays. Another new feature of drill will be the weekly guard mount, which will take place every Friday afternoon, beginning to-day.

It is probable that Lieutenant Stotsenburg will introduce a new system of calisthenics in which the rifles will be used in order to accustom the cadets to the use of the rifle. This will probably be used instead of having each battalion drill on alternate days when the weather does not permit of drilling outside the armory.

Following is a brief sketch of the commandant's army career:

First Lieutenant John M. Stotsenburg, Sixth cavalry, graduated at West Point in June, 1881, and joined the Sixth cavalry in Arizona during the Apache Indian outbreak in September of that year. He served with his regiment in Arizona and Mexico until 1890, when the Sioux troubles broke out in South Dakota. He was with the Sixth cavalry during that campaign and then was stationed at Ft. Niobrara, Nebraska, where he served until the Sixth cavalry was ordered east during the Chicago riots in 1894. In September, 1895, he was ordered to Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., as a student in the United States Infantry and Cavalry school, and graduated in June, 1897.

Lieutenant Stotsenburg was appointed regimental quartermaster of the Sixth cavalry in December, 1889 and served the term of four years.

OVERCOAT THIEVES BUSY.

In spite of the university check room, the stealing of overcoats goes merrily on. The latest unfortunates in this regard are Messrs. Thompson, Welshans, and Spurr. All three overcoats were taken from the library which seems to be a favorite field for such depredations.

PAL SLEIGHING PARTY.

It required three good sized bobsleds to hold the thirty couples of jolly Palladians who went sleighing last Monday evening. They rode around town for several hours, doing their best to disturb the peace. They all repaired to a restaurant then and appeased the appetites which they had worked up.

UNIONS GO SLEIGHING.

The Union Society, unable to resist the attractions of the snow for sleighing, gave a bob sled party last Tuesday evening. After enjoying a long and pleasant ride the party drew up at the home of Dr. Bessey, where delightful refreshments were served.