

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.

The proposed athletic annual will certainly fill a long felt want. In it will be preserved the records of all games, as well as the individual records in athletics. It will also contain pictures of teams past and present. The annual will add interest in athletics by placing before the students the exact status of the University in that line. Anything that will serve in the least to arouse interest in college athletics ought to be commended.

The officers of the Oratorical association have planned for a mass meeting of students and faculty next Wednesday after chapel time in the interests of the oratorical contest next Friday night. Speeches will be made by representatives of the faculty and also of the students. It is planned to have this mass meeting rival those that have been held in past years, for a similar purpose. It is hoped that a large attendance will prove that we still have enough college spirit left to support one of the most important organizations in the University.

The sixteen debaters are hard at work preparing for the final contest, which promises to be an exciting one. Each is sure to exercise his greatest ability. To produce a successful argument requires hours and hours of deep and scientific research. It requires careful discrimination to include the material and exclude the immaterial. The best of language only can avail the successful aspirant. More time, more research, more care, more originality and more ability are necessary in the preparation of one of these debates than in the writing of any paper. The satisfaction of victory and the benefits of experience are all the rewards offered. Why could not arrangements be made whereby extra credit might be received for this extra work? In some departments credit is given on papers that do not represent one-half the work and care devoted to one of these arguments. We commend the idea to the faculty and trust it may meet with due consideration.

The University oratorical contest takes place in the chapel a week from to-night. It should be one of the most important events during the University year. It will be if the students do their share. The officers of the association have done everything in their power to make the contest a great success. Owing to their efforts an extremely strong number of contestants have entered this contest. Indications point to a most successful contest, providing attendance and enthusiasm is what it should be. But without the support of the students at this time this annual contest will be a failure. If there is any college spirit left with us let it be shown at this time. Let everyone turn out to the mass meeting Wednesday in order to get the proper amount of inspiration for the contest Friday night. Let all who have any pride in our University make it a point to be in attendance at the contest. As long as there is an oratorical association in the University of Nebraska it is the duty of every loyal student to support it by all means in their power.

The sophomore class meets to-day to elect a board of editors for the *Sombrero*, which they expect to publish next year.

Already a multiplicity of candidates have appeared to contest for the various offices. In order to satisfy all elements in the class there is a sentiment noticed on the part of many to create more places, so that all may be satisfied. While it may smooth matters out at this time to elect three editors

in chief and three business managers, it will be a source of unending trouble in the future. It was the experience of the board of editors of the *Sombrero* issued by '98 that two, or even one, editor in chief and two business managers are ample and simplifies matters to a marked degree. Two heads to the undertaking complicates matters much, but three would be immeasurably worse. Such work as is required from the editor in chief is entirely executive in its nature and can better be performed by one person than by two, and much better by two than by three.

If the class would change its policy from that of satisfying all factions to that of getting the very best men for the places there is no doubt that its chances for getting out an annual would be greatly increased.

Such a thing as three editors in chief is a thing unheard of in college circles and the class of 1900 should be very sure that their course is right before starting out this innovation.

It is to be deplored that factional spirit is so strong that it is put above class spirit. It is to be hoped that today some elements may be found loyal enough to their class to lay aside their own personal wishes and go in to elect a board of editors who have the qualifications necessary to get out a successful annual.

To hide books away while one is gone to a meal or to a class is deserving of condemnation. To fail to get a lesson is better than to prepare it at the expense of a deserving classmate. Yet the perpetrator of such dishonest tricks has the tangible hope of going to class prepared for recitation.

To wilfully appropriate the property of others with the intention of robbing the owner of its use is not only dishonest, but also a crime in sight of the law. Such offenders, when apprehended in our midst, are usually summarily expelled from the institution. That they are not treated more harshly is due to the fact that the act is, in the majority of instances, surrounded by extenuating circumstances, "first offense," "great temptation," et cetera ad infinitum.

But there is a class of offenders who pester the student body without even these shadows for an excuse. Go into the library at any time from 8 in the morning till 10 in the evening and you will recognize them at almost every nothings. Their tongues keep up a continuous clack. An occasional titter is but partially suppressed with difficulty. Students, real students, try in vain to ignore their presence. Freezing glances and reproving looks phase them not. Like the flies or summer they continue their pestiferous buzzing oblivious of how they inflict the innocent. Such people are but parasites on the student body proper. If their home training has been so far neglected, or if they so far neglect their home training that the reproofs of librarians and friends go unheeded, decisive steps should be taken at once. A few suspensions or expulsions would doubtless create the desired effect. In such action the authorities would have the support of seventeen hundred suffering students, so let the good work begin.

A FEW FIGURES

"Did it ever occur to you," said the mathematical man in the Co-op., who delights in figuring out difficult problems, "how many sheets of paper of the size used in the history folios are used by the students in the course of a year?"

The members of the old gang sitting on the counters and desk stopped discussing the Maine disaster and turned with an interested air toward the speaker. "Did it ever occur to you," he repeated, "how much paper these students use in the course of a year?" The blank faces of the gang assured him they had not given the matter much thought.

Seeing he had made the desired impression, the mathematical man continued.

"Well, sirs," he said, picking up a pile of papers covered with a mass of figures, "I have figured it out that these students use in the course of a year 1,500,000 sheets of this paper." This last was pronounced in an impressive tone and he looked up to see what effect he had made on his listeners. They shifted uneasily in their seats. But he went on: "And this amount would make a sheet over the campus two deep, inclusive of the area occupied by the buildings, and would leave enough over to paper all the rooms." One of the gang fell off his soap box, but the mathematical man continued undisturbed. "If this paper were piled into a column it would make a tower two and one-half times

as high as the ball on the flagstaff of the main building."

Two more of his listeners fainted, but the mathematical man was not to be stopped now. He was just getting warmed up to his subject, and he continued this amount of paper would be such that it would fill the Co-op. over half way to the ceiling. If these sheets were written upon by the students at the rate of five minutes per sheet this consumption would stand for 125,000 hours work. "Now," he added, with an air of triumph, the amount of paper wasted by punching two holes in each sheet would cover—

But the gang had fled.

COMPANY BLOWOUTS.

The annual competitive drill is almost three months distant from the present date, but nevertheless the captain of the six companies of the cadet regiment have their eyes on the cup and each is going about in his own way to win it for his company.

Every one knows how much depends on those in the ranks as well as on the officers, when it comes to competitive drill. A little enthusiasm among the members of the company always tends to make the men drill better and try harder.

For this reason the captains are making arrangements for entertaining their company in a manner which will serve to arouse the greatest amount of company spirit and enthusiasm.

Captain Roddy of company E, was the first to start the ball rolling by giving his company an informal feed at his rooms last Tuesday night. Everybody enjoyed the refreshments which were served, and judging company spirit by the amount of food consumed company E is bubbling over with enthusiasm.

Later in the evening the members of the company spent a short time in a practice tug of war. Company E has received a challenge from company F to a tug of war, which will take place in about two weeks. In order to prepare for this event Captain Roddy had his men indulge in a little battle among themselves with a long rope he had secured for the occasion. One very pleasant feature of the evening was a recitation by John Dickinson, of a poem from his own pen on the recent disaster to the battleship Maine. By unanimous vote Mr. Dickinson was made the company poet. A civil organization of the company was perfected in order to more thoroughly unite its members. Mr. Henry was elected president and Jesse Beans secretary.

A company yell was also adopted. It was doubtless the vigorous rendition of this which caused the landlord to mistake the noise for some students singing and to send for the police to quell the riot.

The officers who responded to the summons made no arrests and the boys were allowed to proceed with their yelling.

Following Captain Roddy's example Captain Noyes is preparing to give company F a "blow out" sometime next week. In addition to this the first annual company F hop will take place on Friday evening, March 11 at Courier hall. The committee on arrangements consists of Messrs. Brown, Cleland, Clarke, Adams and Atwood.

On Tuesday evening, March 15, company D will have a feed at the Alpha Tau Omega house. Plenty of good things to eat and appropriate toasts will be the order of the evening. Company B will give its third annual hop Friday evening, March 25. This is one of the social events of the University and in the success of which every member of company B is vitally interested.

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