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TALBOT WINNER.

Exciting Oratorical Contest with Edgerton a Close Second.

The eleventh annual oratorical contest was held last Friday night in the university chapel. There was a large and enthusiastic audience, which very nearly filled the lower part of the chapel. Before the contest began various songs and yells were inflicted upon the waiting audience by supporters of the different contestants. The Palladians had a song, whose chorus was "Hi, O! Hi, O! we are going to win," and the Delians came singing a parody on "A hot time in the old town tonight."

The chapel was decorated with the scarlet and cream across the stage, and the colors of the three literary societies. Delian, Palladian and Union, hung across the hall. The contestants all belonged to the two societies Palladian and Delian and the honors were divided between them, Mr. Talbot being a Palladian and Mr. Edgerton a Delian.

The contest was a spirited one throughout, each contestant showing careful preparation both in manuscript and delivery, and the verdict of the audience seemed fully in accord with that of the judges as to the merits of the speakers. The program was long but not tiresome, not only because of the excellence of the orations but also because of the music furnished by Miss Reynolds, Miss Cave and the mandolin club, together with some impromptu selections during the wait for the decision of the judges, consisting of readings by Miss Chase and a solo by C. H. Boostrom.

The program opened with some introductory remarks by the president, T. A. Maxwell, in which he predicted that victory would again perch upon the banners of Nebraska university when the winners of this contest should meet the representatives of other colleges in the state and interstate contests to be held later in the year. He also took occasion to pay a neat compliment to the secretary, G. A. Benedict for his work in arranging the many details of the contest.

Miss Alderman was the first speaker and her subject, "The Mission of Democracy." A government, she said, is but the servant of man. It does not exist for its own sake but for the sake of the governed. It must have an ideal beyond itself, which is the development of manhood. Some fear that a little learning will bring much harm, but all learning must be little before it can be great. If a few great principles can be scattered among the people, in time they will be bettered by them, and so the state will advance.

Lee Berry spoke upon the "Faithful Abolitionist," in eulogy of Charles Sumner, whom he characterized as the greatest and noblest man of his time. The trumpet and the call to arms never ushers in a new era. It is the statesman in the quiet halls of the assembly who shapes the destinies of nations, thus is the statesman greater than the soldier as the pen is mightier than the sword.

C. N. Jones took as his theme the "Hour and the Man," and paid a high tribute to William Lloyd Garrison, who though in his own time judged a fanatic, is honored by posterity as a hero and a martyr to a noble principle, which was to prevail as the result of his unflinching efforts.

"The Battle of Queenstown" was the subject chosen by C. F. Horner. There are no more remarkable examples of courage than here exhibited and no battle was ever fought on grander fields. He mentioned the bravery and heroism of Captain Wolf and his soldiers in contrast with the base cowardice and treachery of the New York militia, which refused to cross the Niagara river.

F. E. Edgerton chose as his subject, "Mirabeau," who was the hope and the pride of the great third estate in France. His was a soul which nothing could daunt. To him nothing was impossible. To him all men looked for inspiration and leadership. Though he knew no party, he, alone, could sway all France by the force of his unconquerable personality. He saw that France was not ready for a republic and that such a government would only be followed by a reign of terror.

The subject of the winning oration by G. D. Talbot was "William Lloyd Garrison." In the last analysis, men who deserve the name great are not the men who are made great by the circumstances of the hour, but those who make circumstances bend to their will. One thus great is not so much a leader of men as a prophet of God. Martin Luther was such a man. Patrick Henry was another. The work of these men was noble but nobler still

was that of William Lloyd Garrison, who broke the chains from the bodies of men. He was a man who never retreated. The nation came to him.

The last speaker was H. R. Tucker and his subject, "The New America." His was a subject thoroughly up to date, dealing with the question of America's conduct toward her new possessions. The twentieth century demands a wider policy. We cannot be bound by the traditions of a century ago, for what was then to our best interests will not now fit the changed conditions. Every expansion has been preceded by predictions of dire disaster. But in every case these predictions were proved as groundless as will be those of the present time. We are at the parting of the ways. To stand still is the Chinese policy. To expand is in accord with the American spirit. The United States has started on a way from which there is no turning back. She must take her place among the nations of the world.

The markings of the judges:

DELIVERY.	MANUSCRIPT.	Talbot		Edgerton		Berry		Jones		Horner	
		1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
Clifford	Clifford	95	90	90	85	85	80	80	75	70	70
Rev. R. T.	Rev. R. T.	85	80	80	75	75	70	70	65	60	60
Geo. W.	Geo. W.	80	75	75	70	70	65	65	60	55	55
Shepard	Shepard	75	70	70	65	65	60	60	55	50	50
Hart	Hart	70	65	65	60	60	55	55	50	45	45
I. H.	I. H.	65	60	60	55	55	50	50	45	40	40
Warehouse	Warehouse	60	55	55	50	50	45	45	40	35	35
Port	Port	55	50	50	45	45	40	40	35	30	30
Rowlands	Rowlands	50	45	45	40	40	35	35	30	25	25
Dr.	Dr.	45	40	40	35	35	30	30	25	20	20

ALUMNI.

Myron Isidore Bigelow, whose recent death is mourned by those of the over alumni who knew him and by the Union Society, of which he was a member, graduated from the university in 1889 with the degree of bachelor of science from the electrical engineering course. He was the first graduate from that course in this institution. When in school he had a leaning toward athletics, playing second base with the aggregation then known as the base ball team and being one of the best batters who ever played ball for the "Varsity."

After graduation he married Miss Edith Mockett, a graduate with the class of '90. For a year he traveled for an electrical company. Then he went into business for himself, becoming manager of the Bigelow Electrical Supply company of this city. This position he held until his death.

The Union Literary Society passed the following resolutions at its last meeting:

Whereas, God in His omnipotent wisdom has removed from our midst a former member of our society and a graduate, Mr. M. I. Bigelow;

Therefore, be it the sentiment of the Union Society that we extend our heartfelt sympathies to the wife and family of the deceased, and be it

Resolved, That a copy of the above resolutions be forwarded to Mrs. Bigelow and that they be published in the college papers.

JENNIE MCGUFFEY,
BERTHA E. PINKERTON,
ARTHUR C. LEE.

MUSEUM ADDITIONS.

Notwithstanding the crowded condition of the museum, many improvements have been made, as well as valuable additions in the way of collections. Temporary cases built by students have been replaced by plate glass cases of modern design, all of them donated. Early in the year the MacFarland memorial collection was given to the museum, through the efforts of members of the United States geological survey. This collection is of especial interest as it consists largely of the fossils of Nebraska. The Egyptian mummy donated to the university by H. V. Rominger of Crawford, Neb., is to be placed in one of the cases belonging to the Hon. C. H. Morrill. The large forestry collection has been renumbered according to Dr. Bessey's revised list. It has also been re-labeled, each label being neatly framed in oak and containing maps of Nebraska and of the United States colored in green to represent the exact distribution of each species.

HARVARD LETTER

Events of That Institution Discussed. Retiring Allowances Fixed.

To the Editor of the Nebraskan:

There is much, or little, of interest happening at Harvard just now according as one finds himself in this or that element. In the law school and in the higher graduate work, where mid year examinations afford no relief, every one is bracing himself for the carrying of his load through to June. In the college the same happy, healthful, holiday spirit that prevailed before the examinations has returned. Here the greatest interest centers in the work of the crews. It is expected that some work will be done on the river this week. The outlook for the varsity crew is the subject of not a little speculation. O'Dea, who did so much with the Wisconsin crews last year, has charge of the oarsmen here, but his control is not absolute, and as a result, Harvard may be put to the necessity of choosing the best of several crews as its varsity crew or picking a crew from men who practice a different stroke.

The city across the river cannot be said to be entirely without sources of interest. President McKinley kept the town astir for two days last week, and the influence of his visit lasted for several days after, if one may so characterize the boasting that the Boston papers indulged in. They boasted because the crowd cheered the President and hissed the Secretary of War in the same breath. A much more modest visitor was Joe Leiter, of wheat pit fame, who came to Boston dropped over to Harvard a moment "to see the boys," and was gone before Boston could find out what he was "cornering."

Richard Mansfield, playing in Cyrano de Bergerac, was obliged to discontinue his engagement here on account of illness. Over seventeen thousand dollars worth of tickets were sold when the engagement ceased. He expects to resume his tour at Baltimore on March 6, so that the western tour will probably not be given. Ian MacLaren gives three lectures in Boston next week before starting on his western trip. The month of March promises much for theatre goers—Julia Marlowe, Viola Allen in the Christians, and the second season of Grand Opera.

Beginning September 1, 1899 Harvard University will provide a retiring allowance for its professors. All men who have served as professors, or as assistant professors, for twenty years, will be eligible to one of these allowances. After retirement they will be allowed one-third of their last salary, plus one-sixtieth of their last salary for each additional year over twenty. The whole allowance not to exceed two-thirds of their salary. The fund for this system was given in the main by Mr. Bartlett, a lawyer in Boston. By the end of the year the endowment will amount to \$343,000. In this connection a few sentences from an abstract of President Eliot's report may be interesting. After stating that the maximum salary in the Law School is \$5,500, and in other departments \$5,000 the report says:

"The total amount of gifts for capital account during the year is \$1,145,323.40. The total amount of gifts for immediate use is \$90,662.14. The total state of the property of the university as entered upon the treasurer's books on July 31, 1898, was \$10,230,950.12."

Professor Royce has returned and with him has come reports of his speech at a banquet in Aberdeen, Scotland, in which he says:

"It is true that the British possess the supremacy of the sea, and as a loyal American, speaking with the interests of my country at heart, and with the interests of the future of humanity in mind, I deeply rejoice that it is so." He is the first American to give the Gifford lectures at the University of Edinburgh.

Macrullan advertises among their forthcoming books a history of Greece by Mr. Botsford, a graduate of Nebraska State University and an instructor in history in Harvard.

Around the Cape and up the Sound there is a place called New Haven, and there situated a university known as Yale. During the year the Yale society of Phi Beta Kappa has been perfecting some very radical changes in its organization and mode of life. It began by securing new graduates in White Hall, then it turned its attention to regular meetings and lectures and everything that goes to make a chapter active. The movement has resulted in a new

method of election which provides that the members shall be chosen as follows:

"The Society shall elect as members all men who have attained a philosophical oration stand in the work of Freshman and Sophomore years; and in addition, a number from among the first fifty men in the Class sufficient to bring the membership up to thirty."

"All those not already members who, at the end of Senior year, shall have received a philosophical oration stand on the work of Junior and Senior years, shall then be elected members of the Society."

"The Society, by a three-fourths vote, may elect as honorary members such persons of distinguished scholarship, not undergraduates, as it may deem worthy."

An attempt was made to make the whole number to be chosen elective out of a larger group of the men with high standing, but the above compromise was adopted. The alumni members prompted by Judge Simeon Baldwin, have protested against even this change. The change is significant when considered in connection with the effort to make the Society something more than a passive receptacle for honor men.

ORVILLE H. MARTIN,
Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 28, 1899.

PHI BETA KAPPA FARMERS.

An alumnus of the university has written to Chancellor MacLean as follows: "At a Phi Beta Kappa meeting two or three years ago I heard you express the wish that there might be a Phi Beta Kappa farmer. Perhaps since that time some of our number have become farmers; if so, I shall add one more to the list. The first of March I expect to go on a farm near Lincoln and make farming my business. I do not expect to be a 'gentleman farmer,' but shall do all of the work that I can myself. It seems to me that there is more opportunity for the application of scientific knowledge in farming than in any other business. Farming is not a new thing for me. I was brought up on a farm, leaving it only for attending and teaching school. I hope my case may gratify some who claim that the university takes the farmer boys and does not return them to the farm."

WORK IN CHEMISTRY.

The department of chemistry is constantly called upon by the people of the state, who apply either in person or by letter for the solution of all sorts of questions, many of which imply difficult and complicated analysis in their answer. In the year 1896 291 samples were analyzed; in 1897, 471 samples; in 1898, 154 samples, of all manner of substances. During the month of January this year forty samples came into the laboratory for analysis. To show something of the variety they are classified as follows: Water, 4; beer, 6; minerals, 13; fruit pulp, 15; pulque, 1; medicine, 1. Of course it is entirely impossible to comply with these requests, except in a very few instances, where the desired information can be given without recourse to a chemical investigation or when a few simple tests will suffice to answer the questions asked. In such cases the information is cheerfully furnished. Other cases are disposed of by explaining to the individual that neither the state nor the university makes provision for any chemical work outside of that of instruction and that provided for in the experiment station. Incidentally this necessitates a large amount of correspondence. A hasty inspection of the letter file of the department of chemistry for the year 1898, miscellaneous correspondence, excluding that relating to the sugar beet industry, shows 236 letters of sufficient importance to copy. Of letters pertaining to the sugar beet industry there were over 400. This work of the department of chemistry is but a sample of that done for the state at large by every department in the university of Nebraska.

INTER-SCHOLASTIC MEET.

The Nebraska Inter-scholastic Amateur Athletic Association which was formed last year is making arrangements for a spring meeting to be held in May. This association is made up of high schools of the state and it is expected that their representatives will come together in Lincoln for the spring meeting. The officers of the organization are: Nathan Bernstein of Omaha, president; George C. Shedd of Lincoln, secretary-treasurer, and Superintendent R. D. Overholt of Ashland, J. S. Cutter of Beatrice and Albert Swan of Millard, members of the executive committee. Dr. W. W. Hastings is advisory member from the state university.

BASE BALL PRACTICE.

Warm Weather Gives An Impetus to Athletics. The Schedule

The warm days of last week have given a decided impetus to base ball. The candidates have been upon the field early each day and have practiced faithfully and earnestly. Fred Barnes of last year's Milwaukee league team and Kennedy of the Syracuse team of the Eastern league, are supervising the coaching. Captain Reeder is putting forth every effort to get the most possible work out of the men. The total number of candidates now practicing is greater than ever before, there being several aspirants for each position.

Moore and Lehmer are trying for positions behind the bat. Both are showing up in very fine form. Moore has the advantage of one season's play on the team. He throws well to bases and is batting much harder than last year. Lehmer will make an excellent utility man as his work in the field is also good.

The new candidates for pitcher's position are Campbell, Bell, and Stringer. These with the old men of last year, Gordon, Rhea, Melford, and Bliss, assure a strong and heady game from that quarter.

Rhodes will be found at first again this season. His remarkable playing of last year seems liable to be surpassed. Randall, Kingsbury, and Rehnlander are fighting for honors at second with chances about equal for the two first. Gordon, captain of last year's team, is showing up in great shape at his new position on third. Reed is a close second for honors in this position. Captain Reeder will be found at short stop, and will direct the team from that position. On the whole, the outlook is very bright for one of the fastest infields that Nebraska has ever produced.

The outfield is equally well supplied, there being about fifteen candidates for positions. Lehman, and Johnson of the old team are again in their positions.

The schedule of games as far as it has been arranged follows:

- May 13, Kansas university, at Lawrence, Kas.
- May 15, Missouri university, at Columbia, Mo.
- May 17, Indiana university, at Bloomington, Ind.
- May 18, De Pauw university, De Pauw, Ind.
- May 19, Wabash college, Wabash, Ind.
- May 20, Purdue university, Lafayette, Ind.
- May 22, Norte Dame college, South Bend, Ind.
- May 23, Lake Forest, Ill.
- May 24, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.

It is undecided whether the team will play Minnesota university, and then play University of Iowa before returning home or whether Minnesota will be excluded. On the home grounds we will play Kansas university May 6, and Missouri university, April 28. Games are also arranged with Iowa and Minnesota but dates are not yet fixed.

GYMNASIUM NOTES.

Athletic training is being pushed at present, preparatory for the indoor pentathlon, which is to be held March 25. Nearly forty men are in training in the classes. Out of this number about one-half will enter the pentathlon events. All have expressed a determination to enter field day contests, which will occur in May. A list of men in training follows:

- Elmer Berry, W. T. Mouch, John Herman, M. P. Pillsbury, S. E. Walker, C. M. Story, E. T. Chapin, G. M. Cowgill, R. C. Wallace, A. S. Pearse, I. A. Kellogg, R. E. Benedict, J. G. Richards, R. L. Waterman, R. D. Anderson, W. E. Anderson, F. J. Moutz, Clarence Hoard, H. B. Smith, E. Hall, J. E. Lester, Fred Lehmer, P. W. Pepoon, George Walker, S. V. Cortelyou, A. J. Weston, L. P. Sawyer, W. A. Priestly, H. M. Garrett, Adolph Shane, M. S. Moore, C. E. Bullard, F. D. Burr, I. A. Hewitt, H. C. Swallow, E. B. Brook, W. R. Hearit, H. R. Folmer, G. K. Bartlett, Braeton Broady.

Prize medals will be given to the best man in each event. For the man winning the most points a gold medal valued at \$5 will be given. Second prize will be a silver medal and the third prize bronze.

The night class is progressing remarkably well. Sixteen men were enrolled the first week. This class meets on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock and Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.