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CHICAGO BOYCOTTED.

Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois Combine Against Her.

Now that it is announced that Michigan and Chicago will not meet as usual on next Thanksgiving day, all the rumors which have been brewing between the western colleges is dispelled. In the late controversies Chicago has been the center about which the question revolved, and after Michigan became the second actor in the game, the trouble came rapidly to a focus.

It was seen several years ago, when Charley Baird was still a student manager, that this falling out would have to come if we, or any other college, hoped to get our rights from Chicago. Successive student managers followed him, but none of them felt equal to the task of precipitating an intercollegiate war. It remained for him to organize the western state colleges so that they could get what was their due. The soreness which had been smoldering broke into active fire after the Thanksgiving day game last fall. Michigan felt that she was then in a position, as champion of the West, to declare her principles which, by the way, were those of other western colleges.

We took the stand that it was not our place to chase after Chicago, as she expected us to do. Formerly it has been the custom of Chicago to hold aloof and imply that she was conferring a great favor upon the team which she condescended to meet. This year she remained too long in that self-satisfied state of mind. Michigan offered her a game and also stated the conditions under which it should be played. Chicago did not fancy them and so delayed about either accepting or rejecting them, hoping that Michigan would modify them. When Stagg saw that we would not change and also receiving a definite notification of the stand of the western colleges he announced a game with Brown.

The conditions under which Michigan and the other western colleges demand that games be played with Chicago are very just. Michigan demanded that commencing with next Thanksgiving day we have a two-year contract. The first game was to be played in Chicago or wherever the University of Chicago wished, but the second game was to be played at some place which Michigan was to select. Also we demanded that there be an equal division of the net receipts. That this has not been done can be easily shown. Michigan is tired of building grand stands and making other improvements to Chicago's grounds, which are saddled in part of the legitimate expenses of the games. Last year it cost us \$1,100 to help pay for the grandstands. Of course if we had been on private grounds we would have been obliged to pay a large rental, but the fact remains that we did not play on private but on the University of Chicago grounds. And a game on home is worth so much more to them than the pecuniary profits which they received from us, that they could well afford to pay to bring the games there instead of charging us for coming. The gross receipts at this game was in round numbers, \$11,000, of which amount Michigan's share which was half of the net receipts footed up to a little over \$3,000. Of course, Chicago did not receive more than this in cash, but in reality she received much more, for after the game she consorted herself with about \$5,000 worth of improvements in the shape of grand stands.—U. of M. Daily.

STATEMENT BY STAGG.
Professor Stagg has given out the following statement concerning the combine made by the three western universities against Chicago:
"It has been the policy of the University of Chicago in football, strictly adhered to, to require a guarantee when contracts are made for a series of games to be played elsewhere on alternate years. The games with Wisconsin in 1895 and 1897 and with Michigan in 1892 and 1893 were arranged on the guarantee basis. For the last two years we have played in Chicago, the terms have called for a division of gate receipts after a liberal allowance for expenses. When Mr. Baird proposed a two-year contract February 23 for a Thanksgiving day game the first year in Chicago and the second in Detroit, with an equal division of receipts, I told him it was contrary to our policy. I stated that we were willing to play at Detroit as he requested, but on a guarantee arrangement. We have contended that we have a right to whatever additional income there is by reason of our lo-

cation in Chicago, provided, of course, an arrangement is made for a game in Detroit on alternate years.

"I stated this matter to Mr. Baird, but at no time did I say that the matter was finally settled. However, he immediately started negotiations which would bring together Wisconsin and Illinois in order to use them as a club to bring us to terms. The combination was evident to me in connection with the negotiations for a Wisconsin game. I had arranged with a private conference with Manager Fisher for Monday, March 6, having agreed to pay his expenses to Chicago. On the evening before I received a note from Mr. Baird asking me to meet Mr. Fisher and himself to discuss the football situation. I declined to confer with the gentlemen, giving as my reason that I knew of no football situation which concerned Michigan, Wisconsin and Chicago jointly. I met Mr. Fisher and Mr. Baird separately on Monday, March 6, and from both learned that they had come to Chicago Saturday night and with Mr. Huff of Illinois, had been in conference on Sunday, and had decided to act together.

"Mr. Baird openly stated that in order to whip us into line Wisconsin and Illinois had agreed to stand together in demanding return games and an equal division of receipts, and, as an additional threat, he said that Michigan would refuse to compete against us in any sport. He said they would not play base ball games which had been already agreed upon by Mr. Baird and myself. I presented a statement of the whole affair to our athletic board, and it unanimously voted against arranging games with Michigan and Wisconsin for the coming season."

ALUMNI.

Of the older alumni of the University none are better remembered than George Bell Frankforter, now professor of chemistry and director of the laboratories in the University of Minnesota, and state chemist. Professor Frankforter graduated with the class of 1886, in which same class the University turned out our friends Will Owen Jones, A. L. Frost and C. S. Allen. He graduated from the general scientific course, took his M. A. in chemistry in '88. He was an instructor in the University from '86 to '88 and in the Lincoln high school from '88 to '89. From '89 to '93 he was at the University of Berlin, obtaining his doctorate there in the latter year. He came back to the University as lecturer in chemistry in '93, but before the year was out was called to the University of Minnesota, where he has built up a very prosperous department.

Dr. Frankforter was one of the early members of Phi Delta Theta, and was one of the men who were elected from the old classes both to the Phi Beta Kappa and to the Sigma Xi. He has recently married Miss Mary Carter of the class of 1900, University of Minnesota. She is a member of Delta Gamma and is very popular among the students.

UNION GIRLS' PROGRAM.

The annual program given by the girls of the Union literary society will occur Friday evening, March 24. It will consist of a Greek play. Much attention has been given to this entertainment and from indications a most enjoyable affair may be expected. Every one is cordially invited. The program is as follows:

- Music.
- Perdita—Statue Recitation, Elsie Mae Blandin.
- "Ladies of Athens."
- Zaithippi—Wife of Socrates, Lillian Chase.
- Aspasia—Wife of Pericles, Amy Shively.
- Sappho—The poetess, Bessie B. Brown.
- Nicostrata—Wife of Sophocles, Louise Van Camp.
- Damophila—Wife of Demophilus, Minnie Wilkinson.
- Philesin—Wife of Xenophon, Greta Muman.
- Pythias—Wife of Aristotle, Mabel Cole.
- Cleobula—Sister of Demosthenes, Julia McCann.
- Music.

From the present outlook there will be quite a competition among a number of the colleges of the country this year to secure presidents. Yale, Brown, Amherst and the University of Cincinnati are without executive heads, and the University of California enters the list next March on the retirement of President Kellogg. Cincinnati attaches a salary of \$6,000 to the office, which is \$1,000 more than President Dwight received at Yale. California pays her president \$6,000 also.

SATURDAY'S PENTATHLON

Complete List of Entrees and Prizes for Indoor Meet.

The annual indoor Pentathlon will be held in the gymnasium next Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. It includes five events: Shot put, running high jump, three standing broad jumps, pole vault, and quarter mile potato race. Each contestant must qualify in the five events as follows:

Shot put, eighteen feet, with each additional three inches counting one point out the final score. One hundred points will be given to the person making forty-three feet.

High jump three feet, six inches, with each additional inch counting four points and five feet, seven inches giving one hundred points.

Three standing broad jumps, seventeen feet, with every two inches counting one point and thirty-three feet, eight inches giving one hundred points.

Pole vault, five feet, ten inches, with each additional above scoring two points, and ten feet giving one hundred points.

Quarter mile potato race, two minutes, and five seconds, and every second less, two points, with one minute and forty-five seconds giving one hundred points.

The contestant scoring the greatest number of points will be declared the winner. Prizes will be given as follows: A gold medal to the winner of the pentathlon; a silver medal for the athlete winning the next highest number of points; a bronze medal for the athlete winning third highest number. Besides these, a prize will be given to the winner of each event.

From the winners four men will be chosen who, with R. E. Benedict, winner of the indoor pentathlons in '97 and '98, will represent the University of Nebraska in a dual meet with the Omaha Y. M. C. A. at Omaha May 8.

Omaha offers gold medals to each man on the winning team and a silver trophy of heavy plate twelve inches in diameter fully engraved, to the winning team.

The following have entered for the pentathlon: M. P. Pillsbury, C. M. Story, R. D. Anderson, W. R. Hearst, H. R. Palmer, A. S. Pearce, G. M. Cowgill, C. Wallace, R. L. Waterman, F. Lemar, P. W. Pepon, Clarence Hoard, L. A. Kellogg, F. D. Burr, I. A. Hewitt, S. V. Cortelyou, E. Berry, W. Q. Monck, J. G. Richards, A. J. Weston, Charles Poynter, E. B. Brooks, W. H. Priestly, H. M. Ganett, M. S. Moore, Charles Bulard, A. Shane, Lee Berry, John Hermann, B. W. Christy, F. Manchester, E. Hall, Chapin.

A ROMANCE.

(With local coloring.)

It was not so very long ago that a certain young man who is known to his friends as "Bob," entered the literary field. This is the beginning of the sad part of the story, for everything had apparently been lovely before. A most amorous effusion it was and addressed to the fairest lass of his acquaintance, but through mischance it came into vulgar, mortal hands. You know the sublimest of mortal productions are not intended for the eyes of common man. But strange things will happen—yes, it has been known that in libraries more sacred than ours there have sometimes been found apparently worthless scraps of paper containing priceless thoughts. Sometimes misguided men have foolishly kept from the eyes of the people these glistening gems of thought. To deprive generations of such wonderful works cannot be justified for not only do countless millions go to their graves unenriched by their influence, but the author's praises remain unsung till long after he has passed to a deserved rest.

For this gem, carelessly dropped beside a sacred chair, a different fate was in store. Seen by mortal eyes, it fell into mortal hands, and its burning sentences impressed themselves upon mortal minds. Well known it is that when divine things come into human hands the universe is awry, and thus have nature's laws repeated them-

selves. "Your Bob" could not be contained. Authors are ever strange people, some pine and die because productions all their own are not read and appreciated; others are strangely ferocious when their poetic outbursts reach appreciative eyes. The young poet is half divine and man should not much cross him, for fatal results may follow. Knowing this, those who would have enlightened more of mankind by giving them access to a priceless source of future history, returned it instead to the trembling grasp of its rightful owner. It is better often to sacrifice present joy for the future's greater store. Let us hope the future will prove the past ordered by a hand divine. What the world loses will be treasured by hearts that new can beat in normal cadence.

LETTER FROM CASPER WHITNEY.

In correspondence with Dr. H. B. Ward on athletic matters touching the university, Casper Whitney writes in a recent letter as follows: "I have confidence in the sportsman's standard of Nebraska. * * * I am sure you must have difficulties with your students. It is so all over the west, and particularly in the Missouri valley—the undergraduates do not seem to appreciate the ethics of amateur sport. I imagine you must, on occasions, become much discouraged; but I assure you that there is a great deal for encouragement. In the last six or eight years I have made four complete circuits of the United States, and you cannot imagine the tremendous improvement in the intelligent conception of the spirit of amateur sport; likewise in the improved healthy wholesomeness of practice. Would it not be possible for the Missouri valley colleges to get together and agree on some rules? Of course, I know it is quite a trip from Lincoln to Kansas City; yet I should think it would be worth while once a year if Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri met at some central point to agree upon healthful rules and their enforcement."

STUDENT LIFE AT STANFORD.

Recently the Vidette-Reporter of the University of Iowa published a very interesting letter recently from a former student, but who is now of Leland Stanford, Jr., University. Recognizing its value as descriptive of school life at that institution, we clip the following portion:

"It's different at Stanford. This year, for the first time, we lost to Berkeley, but the spirit did not go back on the team then. Within a week both captain and coach were presented with \$50 loving cups, the subscriptions of students.

"Stanford has a way of her own in managing student affairs. Every student is expected to pay a student body assessment of \$1 at the beginning of each year. It is nearly all paid during the first week. At the close of each year officers of the student body are elected by the Australian ballot system, nominations having been made by a caucus. All students are entitled to vote. In the same way managers of athletic teams, musical clubs, and editors-in-chiefs and managers of the college papers are elected. The treasurer handles all money, and nothing is received or paid out except by him. For this service he is paid a small salary.

"Nominations are also made by caucus for representatives on intercollegiate debates. These, naturally, come largely from the literary societies. The choice, however, is made by a sifting through preliminaries, semifinals, and finals.

"This method does not do away with the individuality of any organization. It does increase the interest of the student body in all of these things. An executive committee is composed of the student body officers, and representatives elected by each class. They have charge of detailed business."

NATIONAL TRACK MEET.

Casper Whitney, the authority on amateurism and purity in college athletics, has a plan by which he hopes to bring together the eastern and western colleges. His idea is to hold, every two years, a national track meet to decide the championship of the United States. The association, having charge of this meet should be governed by representative college men. Under this plan it is hoped that the wrangles and squabbles now so conspicuous in both of the intercollegiate associations, will be of less importance. Mr. Whitney favors holding this meet in Chicago as it is the most centrally located city.—U. of M. Daily.

CHAPTER SPECIALIZATION

Will Halstead, Class of '98 Writes for Sigma Chi Quarterly.

The conditions of fraternity existence are at least two. The primal one is grounded on human nature, and rises in importance from a desire in men of affairs, to a necessity in the lives of college young men. This necessity is that of friendship.

The other condition is defined with more difficulty, if it is definable at all. It is an inclination, woven into the energy and pulsing activity of great majority of young men, their entrance into college marks their first separation from home, and its domestic influence. They are suddenly thrust into a small world of activity in which their lack of experience is shared by the rest, and in which each man stands an equal chance. A score of fields lie before them marked off for the contest of wits. They present a fascinating opportunity for young America to "get in it." Fraternities have taken it upon themselves to be the medium of satisfying this keenly aroused thirst.

Any line of absolute distinction between these two ideas cannot be drawn. They overlap and dovetail in so many intangible ways that there is no possibility of setting each off to itself. They co-operate so closely that one cannot always determine one from the other. One is the interior spirit of brotherhood; the other is the external spirit of organization. They are both legitimate and not essentially out of harmony. But there is a ratio of importance between them. There cannot be the slightest doubt of those who appreciate the true significance

of the fraternity idea, that any influence which in any manner subordinates and compromises the fundamental principles of the brotherhood, and in any way conflicts with their influence upon the lives and characters of their members, is dangerous.

There is a tendency among all fraternities to play to the galleries. They are becoming spectacular. They are putting on the boards an extravaganza. They are strutting and cocking their heads in the air, like actors in the puppet show.

This condition of affairs is a farce. It is brought about by fatuous and perverted ideas of the functions of a fraternity. It cannot be successfully denied that fraternities, in some instances, all too frequent, are bringing upon themselves a disfavor not occasioned by wounded pride on the part of those who have not been honored with invitations. The antagonism of what bears the singular appellation of the "barb element," is as conscienceless as any other similar attack, but overshadowing that opposition, there certainly does exist a conviction among men of older years and sounder judgment, than yours or mine, my sophomore readers, that the spiritual part of your order is a nonentity, that we come all too near being clubs. It is not because we are paying too much attention to our public reputation, but because we are purchasing that at the expense of the most beautiful and noble influences of that order.

The predominating form in which this appears is in chapter specialities. The condition for these arise most frequently when Dame Fortune has issued an adverse decree, and are noticeable most often in two phases, which may be cited as typical of "varsity," which are raised in individual cases. It sometimes happens by reason of the graduation of a large number of men at one time, and the inability of a number to return to school at the beginning of a new year, that a chapter of real worth finds itself failing.

The other condition is less frequent, but furnishes an even stronger incentive to speculation. A new chapter of some standard fraternity is instituted among chapters of twenty or thirty years practice. The personnel of any new chapter is rarely of sufficient worth to lift it into the highest favor at the outset, and if it should happen to be it is given no such consideration by its rivals.

My plea, then, is for the happy medium between a speculative association, based on a speculative method. Every college chapter needs a champion before it needs a reputation.