

race" style of architecture, scattered about in the immediate vicinity, that have been purchased from time to time and converted into recitation rooms. The only opportunity for outdoor exercise is two brick tennis courts in connection with the gymnasium. The old Johns Hopkins estate, Clifton Park, about four miles from the Hopkins University has been fitted up with tennis courts, base ball and foot ball grounds, and the old residence converted into a club house. This is at the disposal of the students but is so far out that it is not utilised to any extent except on Saturdays.

Tennis and foot ball are taking the athletic energy at Hopkins at this time. The fall tennis tournament began yesterday with over forty entries, in seven classes, with a series of handicaps between classes. This shows the universal interest in this game here; when fully one-tenth of the total number of students are entered in a tournament.

There is an inter-class schedule of games arranged in foot ball between the undergraduate classes to begin next Saturday; and meanwhile there have been from two to four practice games a week.

The way foot ball is played is amusing to look upon. When one player "interferes with" or "blocks" another, he at the same time plants a good "right hander" where it will be the most effective in diminishing his opponent's ardor in the game. If the first trial of this tactics seems to have more effect upon his opponent than upon him he continues to follow it up with another; if the effect is vice versa, he discontinues at once as a matter of course. If he is successful in being quite effective,—"beg pardon" and then gets ready to repeat the performance at the next opportunity. The "quibbling," "scrapping," pushing, slapping and even hitting when forming for a "scrimmage" is very amusing. I actually believe the U. of N. boys with their meagre chance contests in foot ball could out play any team Hopkins has (out "scrap?" never!). I have seemingly perpetuated a great inconsistency in writing from this, the center *opreminens* of American higher education, and confining myself exclusively to so minor a branch of higher education. I have two reasons for doing this. In spite of the fact that the most energetic men in our faculty, as well as the best of students have apparently done their best to get athletics initiated at the U. of N., and even when scarcely a week goes by but that some encouragement or excitement is offered the athletic student body from the chapel rostrum by the chancellor; in spite of these things athletic spirit is dead. The fact that every member of the Hopkins faculty with whom I have conversed at all on any subject has taken advantage of the opportunity to advise me (and I am no invalid) to make good use of the gymnasium, may help the student body of the U. of N. to believe that their professors mean what they say when they encourage athletics.

The gymnasium is about two-thirds the size of ours at the U. of N. It has about a half more apparatus. Dr. Hartwell, the director gives each student a physical examination and indicate in a handbook of gymnastics what exercises should receive especial attention, yet of the 300 lockers there is not one now to be had. They are all in use. From 5 to 6 P. M., is the most lively time in the gymnasium; and at this time each evening there are usually at least about sixty students exercising. The result is quite noticeable in those students who improve this opportunity for exercise.

Hopkins has a yell, and though I have not yet heard it when it seemed to have the volume of our "O-o-o oh my," it has a "clatter" that is quite suggestive of life and spirit.

Now that we have a gymnasium room and an excellent nucleus of apparatus, a legislature at hand with a chance for

additions to our good start, with these considerations added to the usual incitement to athletic life things should indeed be lively this school year. Also the excitement that may come from the State Field Day with the record made last June to sustain and surpass should not be forgotten.

This, with the fact that one grasps the run of this branch of higher education more quickly than he can the workings of the deeper and more elaborate departments and may speak more intelligently thereof may be offered in accounting for this seeming inconsistency.

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CURRENT COMMENT.

The late election was by no means a quiet one. In Nebraska politics stood way past the boiling point. As was expected, boodle and fire water flowed freely. Anti-amendment enthusiasm ran so high that in a certain city in the state voters in favor of the amendment were not allowed to cast their ballots, and were driven from the polls. This is a disgrace to the fair name of Nebraska. The ballot box is free to all citizens and there is something wrong when the majority are allowed to dictate to the minority and under threats force them to comply with their demands.

The manner in which the elections were conducted in certain parts of the state proves conclusively that as long as the present method of voting continues in operation just so long will corruption be practiced at the polls. It is true the Australian plan for balloting should be adopted. This has been proven to be a success wherever it has been tried.

There was entirely too much dictation given by workers at the polls to voters. Ballots were doctored up by party doctors and distributed freely. The voters were handed ballots and then seized at the button hole by these physicians who led them up to the polls and saw that they deposited the proper (or rather improper) ballot. Had the Australian system been in vogue there would have been none of these fraudulent votes cast. The voter would simply have selected any ballot he wished to vote and walking into a booth where no outsider was allowed he would have fixed his ballot to suit himself, deposited it and walked out without having a word of conversation with anybody. There would have been no ill feeling to cause confusion. The fair and honest vote of the state would have been taken and no contests over the result of the election would have resulted. Would not this have been much better than the way it now is? Most emphatically, yes!

If it is true that "The voice of the people is the voice of God," then the republican party is indeed in a sorry plight. In nearly every state the returns show either a democratic or alliance victory and a republican defeat.

Kansas elected the entire alliance ticket with the exception of governor. Michigan went democratic by a large majority. South Dakota claims the election of an alliance governor. McKinley, the great tariff reformer, was defeated in Ohio. Ingalls will not return to congress. In Nebraska, our own state, that gave the present republican governor a majority of something over 22,000 at the last election, the democratic candidate for governor, Mr. Boyd, has been elected by about 900 plurality, and W. J. Bryan, democratic congressman from the First district has been elected by about 6,000 majority. Besides these states the republican party has lost all of New England except Maine and Vermont.