

the liberal support and patronage of the state at large. The opening address delivered by the Hon. John L. Webster, of Omaha, appears elsewhere in this paper and is worthy of the careful perusal and consideration of everyone.

A COMMITTEE of the faculty are holding frequent sessions in preparing such changes in the courses in the industrial college as shall make the work more attractive and helpful to the people of the state at large. It is intended to make that college as strong as any in the Union. The new work in electrical engineering to be offered by Professor Brace will be included, and there will be a general recognition of practical industrial training. Special work in agriculture and horticulture will be provided.

ALREADY, active steps are being taken toward the reorganization of the Scientific Club, and there is no doubt but that the Classical Club will also organize, and both will soon be holding their regular meetings. The work done by these clubs is very beneficial to their members, and the papers usually prepared are reports upon different lines of original work. Any student, without restriction as to class may belong to either club and it is to be hoped that the new students will see the advisability of taking part in or at least of attending the meetings of these organisations.

THE SUGGESTION made by the chancellor in regard to the literary societies holding a joint debate sometime during the winter term is a good one. It should receive the hearty approval of the societies. Such a program would relieve the monotony caused by the several oratorical contests that occur about that time. There is no reason why such a debate might not be made more interesting, more entertaining, more instructive than an oratorical contest. The subject selected for debate will be a question that concerns the present time and not one that pertains to the pomp and glory or infamy and ruin of Babylon, Athens or Rome. Thought and logic would prevail over the flowery language and graceful gestures that are used by the orator seeking admirers. The persons entering such a debate will receive far more practical benefit therefrom than they would receive in competing for an oratorical prize. The fate of the college orator is often determined by favoritism on the part of some judge. In a debate of this kind the audience will be determined by what he really does. The audience will receive much more benefit from such a program than they do from the average oratorical contest. When most college orators have delivered their orations the verdict of the audience is: "Mr. — is a good or poor orator,"

but who was ever known to have been moved to act through the actions of a college orator.

The societies should consider the matter immediately. Two persons from each of the three societies would furnish a program long enough. Each debater would have time to say what he had to say in a direct, concise, forcible manner. A debate and extemporaneous speaking seem to mean about the same thing in this institution. Such should not be the case, especially in this one proposed. The debater should be given time enough to prepare his argument so that it may be the product of wit, thought, logic and force in expression. Committees should be immediately appointed to confer with each other in regard to selecting a suitable subject for discussion and to make other necessary arrangements.

MR. R. B. OWENS, the new instructor in the electrical engineering department, has arrived and has taken charge of the work. Professor Owens will have the distinction of being one of the youngest instructors in the institution, but there are none who are more thoroughly prepared for their work. Professor Owens graduated in the electrical engineering course of Johns Hopkins, after which he held important positions with some of the largest electrical establishments in the country. While thus actively engaged he pursued a post-graduate course at Columbia, where he received the E. E. degree. Professor Owen is a thorough theoretical and practical electrician, having, by much experience both in the construction and operation of electrical stations become thoroughly acquainted with the practical side of the electrical engineer's profession, and he is a valuable acquisition to the present list of professors having the electrical department in charge.

ONE of the most important of the many little conveniences adopted lately is the providing of a guide for visitors. In the early days when the only attractions for visitors were the white-washed recitation rooms and the few Indian relics that constituted the museum, the suggestion of a guide would have been received as a mild sarcasm. But all that is changed. Instead of walking around with a frightened expression on their faces and a half-formed apology on their lips, visitors are now conducted by a courteous guide who is anxious and willing to explain whatever may be of interest to them. Not only that, but visitors will get a much better impression concerning the immense amount of apparatus necessary for a school of our size. The library, the laboratories, the museum, the society halls, are all of interest to visitors, but unless the special attractions of each are pointed out and explained, these attractions are unnoticed or but half appreciated and all