

viding the students will take hold of it and give it their support. As far as the students doing their part is concerned, THE HESPERIAN believes there will be no trouble. Is our university large enough to carry on anything of this kind successfully? At present, this seems to be the only stumbling block. However, if our numbers increase next year as much as they have this, there will be no trouble from that source. THE HESPERIAN would like to know what students think about it. Any plan, or suggestion will be appreciated. We invite a discussion of the matter in our columns.

WHY is the musical part of the programs at university entertainments appreciated so little? It has become a custom among the students to have a general good time during the rendition of music. They seem to take it for granted that this time is to be used for whispering. Some, apparently, think that musicians are invited to play in order that the audience may have a social chat between the literary numbers. We have music in our programs, because many of us would rather hear a fine piece of music well rendered, than an oration. It requires as much hard work and talent to prepare a piece of music, as it does to write a good oration. There are very few that devote as much time to literary articles, that are given even at our contests, as an accomplished musician gives to the study of music. Is not their labor as valuable as ours? Is it right to invite persons to furnish us with music, then make so much noise during the rendition of it? People do not like to favor us with music when they receive such treatment. Let us remember this in the future. We should be more considerate for the feelings of those that do us favors. Politeness is evidence, as well as fruit, of culture.

THE national guards will go in to camp this year in June, at Omaha. During the third week of the month there will be a series of competitive drills. \$16,000 will be awarded in prizes. The first competition is open to any white military company. The first prize will be \$5000, and a Galveston cup; the second, \$2000; the third, \$1000.

The maidens drill is open to any white military company that has not received as high as third place in any previous drill. There will be three prizes given: the first, \$1500; second, \$750; third, \$500.

There will also be artillery drills. In this, single gun detachments will compete. The first prize will be, \$1000; second, \$500; third, \$250. There will be another drill with gatling guns. In this, the prizes are as follows: first, \$1500; second, \$750; third, \$500.

Since this drill is open to any white company, THE HESPERIAN sees no reason why the university

cannot send a company to Omaha to compete. We have a United States officer to drill us. This is something, probably, of which no other company can boast. We also have about one hundred and seventy-five men from whom to select a company. The battalion has been drilling under the new tactics for four months already. These facts will surely give us no little advantage. We believe the university can send a company to Omaha that will be equal to any there. Furthermore, it will redound to the credit of the university, even if we do not win any prizes.

Let us improve this opportunity. We have a special company organized now. But there must be some changes made in it. In the first place, there are several men that should be removed, and others put in their places. If we expect to succeed, it will be necessary to select men, irrespective of class or rank in the battalion. If there are first preps that can drill better than juniors or seniors, they should be assigned to the company, and the juniors or seniors rejected. In choosing the men three things should be taken into consideration—efficiency in drill, the form of the men, and their size. There are men in the battalion, and some of them are non-commissioned officers, that have been drilling for two or three years, but are still poorly drilled men. Such cadets should not be taken who are defective in appearance. These, also, should be left out. If it is possible, the company should be made of large men. We believe it would be a good plan to take no one below five feet eight inches, or over six feet. This would make a fine looking company. However, if it should be impossible to get enough good men between these two extremes, the rule might be slightly relaxed. Better to have a greater variety in size than to take poorly drilled men.

Judging from the manner in which Lieutenant Pershing made promotions last fall, we believe that the matter of choosing men for the company should be entirely left in his hands. Past experience and association with military men have well qualified him for the work. If selecting the men is left to him, THE HESPERIAN believes that efficient men only, will find places in the company.

If we compete, the company must devote much time and work to the undertaking. They should drill twice now, and later three times a week. They could put in another hour between five and six, on either Tuesday or Thursday. Every man in the company should feel that he ought to do his very best. He should submit to any necessary discipline to better the company. He should study the tactics. Every man in the company should be qualified to take the company and drill it any time. He should be able to distinguish between the finest