

the Justification of the Contract with the Bond Syndicate, there seemed to be a lack of force and fire on the affirmative, upheld by Messrs. Newbranch, Hunt and Lien, and a lack of sound, connected argument on the negative, advocated by Messrs. Rodgers and L. J. Abbott. The debaters in this division, however, reached much more definite conclusions than did those in the division preceding, and the technical nature of their subject was no doubt responsible for their failure to arouse much interest among the sleepy audience. After this debate the meeting adjourned.

Thursday night, before an audience of about sixty, the third and fourth debates were held. The third division discussed Compulsory Arbitration, with Messrs. Mayer and McGuffey on the affirmative, and Coleman and Barr on the negative. The two closing speakers on this debate—Mr. Barr and Mr. McGuffey, delivered speeches that were logical, harmonious and complete.

The fourth division discussed the extension of U. S. territory, Messrs. Leavitt and Weaver advocating extension and Meier and Baker opposing. This debate was, without any question, the best conducted and best treated by all the speakers of any of the debates in the series. All four of the debaters are naturally very strong speakers, and each of them did himself proud. The decision of judges awards the first eight places to the following persons: A. J. Weaver, 91; J. H. Lien, 89 1-3; H. E. Newbranch, 88½; R. S. Baker, 89 1-3; C. M. Barr, 84½; H. W. Quaintance, 83 1-3; Rodgers, 83; H. P. Leavitt, 82 1-3.

While the judges were out Mr. Matthews was called on to make a speech, and responded by urging all loyal students to stand by the debating association. He thought the association should receive as much support as athletics.

Iowa State University is holding its preliminary debates preparatory to its contest with the University of Chicago.

#### A Song.

I was born on the mighty prairies  
Where the winds blow wild and free,  
And some of the west wind's wildness  
Has found a place in me—

For the west wind rocked my cradle,  
And sang to me while I slept,  
And when I awoke 'twas my playmate  
And it soothed me when I wept.

It taught me a spirit of freedom;  
It taught me to laugh and be gay;  
It taught me to know no master  
Save my own wild will at play.

I was born on the mighty prairies  
Where the wind blows wild and free,  
And I hope that when life is over,  
The prairies may cover me.

—WILLIAM REED DUNROY.

#### To Story Writers.

THE HESPERIAN is anxious to see the literary talent of the University encouraged. It believes that many stories lie unwritten and unspoken in the minds of scores of students, that are worth reading and worth paying for. And so we make this offer:

For the best story, not exceeding two thousand words in length, turned in before the 12th day of December, we will pay \$5 in cash. All stories entered for this prize must be marked "Prize Story," and will be handed to Professors Sherman, Adams and Ansley, who have kindly consented to act as judges. The story they pronounce best will be published in the Christmas number of the HESPERIAN.

This offer is open to all students, and is absolutely without limitations. And as these are hard times, the customary three typewritten copies will not be required. Turn in your story and get the prize. Write your name on a slip of paper, place it in a sealed envelope, and send it with the story, but do not place your name on the manuscript. That is all. THE HESPERIAN awaits the result, and confidently promises its readers a treat.