

THE HESPERIAN

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If you have any university spirit, tonight is a good time to show it. Attend the contest.

Now that the legislature has signified its intentions to appropriate all the money asked for, we are wondering why we didn't ask for more. Of course we needed more, but our modesty forbade.

The local oratorical contest which is to be held in the chapel next Friday evening, bids fair to be one of the best in the history of the university. The contestants are strong men who have worked hard to make the contest what it should be. There are a few who think that oratory has seen its best days as a collegiate attainment. We do not believe this. The need of such work is very evident here in our own institution. If we are to impress the world as public men, we must have something more than plow-boy grace, as well as hard sense.

The senior class is to be congratulated on securing Edward Everett Hale as class orator. We doubt if a more representative or capable American could be found. He is at once the eminent preacher, scholar and author. Although in his seventy-fifth year, he is the strong, manly, accomplished American which he has always been. He comes from the east, but is a man in thorough sympathy with the west and will bring with him a spirit of appreciation and sympathy which will bring us more in touch with the past of the country he represents.

What is more trying on one's nerves than the attempt to study when from all sides come chaotic outbursts of whispers and giggles, sandwiched with the shuffling of feet and rapping of knuckles? One might as well try to pound greek into a brass monkey, or chop wood on the run as to get a lesson in the library alcoves now-a-days. It is not the fault of the librarian either. He may try as he will, but as soon as the back was turned some puerile student will make a giddy sally which is taken up and echoed and re-echoed through the alcoves until the whole room is filled with a tittering, thumping, buzz. We must set our foot down upon it as students. No one will act against the good of public opinion. We are democratic, but let us not abuse and licentiate our freedom.

Herbert Bates writes for the Outlook an article entitled "A Western University," which every Nebraskan, whether he is out of the university or in, should read. Here is an eastern man who is unprejudiced—one who in the strength of conviction gives us credit for what we are worth. No one could do this better than Mr. Bates. Besides being an unprejudiced man, he has spent five years with us helping to propagate the culture which he so earnestly sets to our credit as a university. It is very hard indeed for an