

# THE HESPERIAN

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The battle of the giants is upon us. The fierce contest in debating is to be fought out this week. After months of close and confining work the sixteen men who survived the preliminary forensic battle are to come together to determine their final ranks. Thousands of pages have been conned; hundreds of books and pamphlets investigated, innumerable articles have been read. The library has been ransacked from the Frat-girls' corner to the den of Epes. Reports of engineers, opinions of statesmen, the bombast of the jingo and the timid utterances of the dongo have been weighed, measured and valued. And now the fruits of this toil, the product of this labor are to be set before a waiting public. There will be some reasoning and some imagination, some statistics and some "figgers," some bombastic utterances and some conservative mutterings. Some authorities will be cited, some distinguished and some abated. There will be some air-sawing, some awkwardness and some eloquence. But

It takes all sorts of weather  
To make up a year  
And a sphere.

We are proud of our debaters; they have in them the mettle that counts for good; the solid and substantial stuff that makes men strong and fit to brush shoulders with a hardened world and never flinch. They are the men who, in the long run will impress their communities, make better citizens and blaze the way to better standards and higher ideals. Long live the debating spirit of the old Uni!

### The Final Debates.

On Friday and Saturday nights of this week will occur the long-awaited finals. On Saturday night, the decision of the judges will designate the nine contestants who will represent Nebraska in debate with Kansas, Missouri and Colorado. There is no higher honor in the University than to be chosen to represent her in one of these forensic contests. To be chosen for the Kansas debate is regarded as the highest honor, because she is our ancient enemy. Two years ago our representatives, Weaver, Quaintance and Newbranch defeated the Kansans, but last year Baker, Dennison and Greene went down in defeat before the oratory and logic of the Populists. The Kansas debate is to be held in Lincoln and will be enthusiastically supported by both city and University. The Missouri and Colorado debates will be first held this year and will take place in their respective states. From reports received from them, our debaters can anticipate a warm reception in both places.

The sixteen chosen from the preliminary contests are recognized by the student body as the cream of the debating fraternity. Some of those men have been active members of the debating clubs for four and five years. All are working hard and will make these finals the sharpest contests that have been held for years. He who wins will deserve the laurel. For the first time in the history of the University, a lady is one of the final contestants. The ratio isn't exactly 16 to 1 but it is near it.

The question for Friday night is: Resolved, that the annexation of Hawaii would be beneficial to the United States. Affirmative, W. F. McNaughton, G. E. Kindler, J. A. Maguire, A. L. Deal; negative, E. B. Perry, F. G. Hawkby, E. F. Warner, O. W. Meier.

On Saturday night the question for debate will be: Resolved, that the United States should construct and operate the Nicaragua