

## THE HESPERIAN.

Issued Weekly by the Hesperian Association of the University of Nebraska.

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One copy, one semester..... 60

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## EDITORIAL

With this issue, The Hesperian begins the school year of '98-'99. Thanks to the able management of Messrs. Perry and Mumford of last year, the paper is on a firm financial basis and has a reputation for editorial ability and fairness found with few college papers. The university may well feel proud of the record made by the Hesperian. It has been the uncompromising advocate of all that is true and honest in university life. It has been fearless in its denunciation of any evils or mismanagement. It has been a representative paper of the UNIVERSITY, not of some clique of faction. The present management hopes to keep up the standard of the paper's excellence and asks for the co-operation of its friends and patrons.

The size of the Hesperian has been changed and it is now the equal of any college paper printed. This increased size will furnish space for better and more comprehensive reports of University doings. The school year that is now opening up promises to be a prosperous one. More than two thousand students are expected to attend. Among these will be found many kinds of people. The Hesperian will not aim to please them all. It shall be fearless in giving censure where it is merited, nor shall it hesitate to bestow praise on whom it belongs. No one need complain of unfair and unjust treatment.

Last year and including a part of the year before, the library lost something like 500 books. This number cannot be accounted for. Perhaps they have been borrowed for a short time, but the indications are to the contrary. Five hundred books would make quite a library, even for several persons, but it is hoped the students supplied with the splendid library which the university affords, have not been the chief criminals concerned. The outside public is free to use the library at all hours, and it is reasonable to assume that many, in fact, a majority of these books may have been taken by outside parties. A peculiar fact in the matter, and one which leads to this conclusion, is that in the department of American history, (and the same may be true in other departments), the greater number of the books stolen were books which were not much used in class work, and many of them were scarcely known to be in the library, they being used so little. But surely not all the books lost were taken by outsiders. And so it behooves all students who really appreciate the great advantages and privileges which they enjoy at the hands of the state, to be foremost in giving their loyal support and co-operation to any just and practical scheme which may be devised for those less fortunate members of society who persist in abusing these privileges which are placed within the reach of every student free of cost. Let us all unite as one to make a better showing the coming year, and reduce the number of lost books to the smallest minimum.

This year the interstate oratorical contest will be held in Lincoln. We must make it a success. Ten states, from Ohio to Colorado, and from Minnesota to Missouri, will be here, and the University of Nebraska, and Nebraska, must carry off the laurels. We stand the best chance to do so because the contest is to be at home. We have an officer of the Inter-state Association here with us, and one who will do everything in his power to push the work along and make the contest a great success. Mr. McGuire, vice-president of the Inter-state Oratorical Association, is well known in the University as one thoroughly interested in public speaking and the development of the art in the University. He will add vigor and interest to oratorical matters, and what now is necessary to make debating and public speaking in the University a great success is the loyal support of the students who are interested in this line of education and development. We cannot expect the support of those who are not interested, but there are enough students who desire to gain benefit in this line of work to make enthusiasm if they only apply themselves to it. Let each society and debating club take the initiative step to aid in the good work by appointing, at once, special committees to confer with like committees from other societies and clubs to work out a scheme to be followed in this work the coming year.

The results of the three inter-states held last year show that Nebraska has plenty of timber which needs polishing and working down a little. Colorado college was an easy victim for Nebraska university representatives. Missouri won by three points and Kansas won an easy victory.

There was no lack of enthusiasm nor energy among the debaters. In the preliminaries there were fifty-eight who registered and forty-six actually participated in the contests. The nine successful debaters in the final contests were all workers and thinkers. In each of the inter-state debates our representatives had plenty of argument; but there was often a lack of force and effectiveness in delivery. The Jay-Hawkers and Missourians beat Nebraska in delivery rather than in argument.

There is a remedy for these defects in delivery. Mrs. Manning volunteers to offer a special course this year for debaters. She will spare no pains to give the aspiring debaters the required training. Then, there are four debating clubs, which meet every Saturday night and discuss practical up to date questions. Three of these clubs are open to new students and are glad to welcome them.

The debating association has a membership of over sixty. It is still in debt about \$10, but will settle all accounts after the first meeting. There is a committee appointed to arrange for an inter-state debating league between Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska universities. If this plan is perfected there will be more system about the contests and a greater incentive to enter the debates.

There is no reason why Nebraska, with her two thousand students, can not find the right kind of material to defeat both Kansas and Missouri debaters this year.

At the close of last year, June 11th, Miss Mabel Tuttle, who for many years served the university so well as executive clerk, was presented with a fine set of John Ruskin's works, twenty-six volumes, together with Washington Irving's "Conquest of Granada," in two handsome volumes, Agapida edition. These gifts were given her by the students of the university, who took this way of expressing to her their appreciation for her many kind acts and sincere loyalty to the interests of the whole student body during her eight years' service in the university. Miss Tuttle has gained for herself the lasting friendship of every student who knew her, because of her intimate interest in each and every one. She was always the students' friend, and as such she will always be so remembered.

The books were bought by the money secured from a popular subscription circulated among the entire student body, the amount subscribed being definitely fixed at ten cents each, thus making it a general expression of the feeling of all students. Several hundred names were on the lists. Upon the cover of the books were stamped in gold letters: "Miss Mabel Tuttle, Presented by the students of the university of Nebraska."