

# THE HESPERIAN

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The recent action of the library authorities in posting reading references for the preliminary debates is another evidence of the efficient work of the librarian and his assistants this year.

There has been less dishonesty among the debaters this year than heretofore in regard to the use of library books. A few volumes have, however, disappeared from the shelves, but they will be in place again by Christmas. There is no legitimate reason for appropriating a library book for the purpose of preparing for a debate. The motive is the result of pure selfishness. An individual who cannot prepare himself for a debating contest without resorting to this method is not fit to represent the University of Nebraska in an interstate debate.

The address of Chancellor McClain of the law school of the University of Iowa, delivered in chapel last Tuesday, rightly deserved the full house which it drew. Students and faculty alike crowded into the overcrowded chapel to hear some words of thought and advice on this most important question now before the American people, the question of the government of our newly acquired territory. The theme, such a live one today, was one in which each and every hearer felt a keen interest. Mr. McClain dealt with this knotty problem in a fair, comprehensive way. He took it out of the realm of partisan bias and feeling, and handled it in such a manner as to dispel the feeling that it is, or every will be, a party question.

What has become of our college spirit, or have we a sufficient bulk of the commodity still in stock? If not, where has it all gone? What is the cause of its disappearance? To whom, if any one or more individuals, can the blame be assigned?

These are a few of the many similar questions that now a-days are heard about the campus, and especially by old, bygone alumni who happen to chance this way. These questions are often broached and as often go unanswered. No one seems to know the cause, and no one seems to care. Some say it's the one-sided development of the University that is the cause, but it is very indefinite which particular side is meant. Some say it is due to the profs., but certainly they continue in the "even tenure of their ways" and diligently pursue their duties in their secluded studies. Some say this ominous gloom about the University is due to the loss of Librarian Eppes, but his episodes still hover, spectre-like, over the smouldering ashes beneath the big rock, and are soon to be substituted for the Odes and Epodes of Horace in the University curriculum. *Il fuit sed non est.* Some even attribute this melancholy to the Chancellor, but certainly he has done nothing.

The appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan in the chapel last Tuesday was the occasion of a very signal and hearty expression of the great admiration and good feeling which exists among the students for Nebraska's statesman and soldier. Mr. Bryan has always been a true friend of the University. The University has been a friend of Mr. Bryan as a man and a leader of men. Never has the chapel rung with such enthusiasm as was administered in such massive quantities when the call of "speech" was started and taken up—so it seemed—by every available mouth which could be put into operation on the spur of the moment. A perfect conglomeration of yells and attempted yells, of air-splitting shrieks with their consequent gaspings for breath, kept the chapel in perfect turmoil from the gallery to the floor, until, we believe, the old chapel bell tingled in the morning breeze. Mr. Bryan was forced to stand and quell the turbulent, atmospheric phenomena in order that Chancellor MacLean might proceed with the rest of the program.

Mr. Bryan looked thin and somewhat haggard. His complexion showed the remains of a slight tan. He spoke in a low, earnest tone, and to say he had the undivided attention of every person in the chapel, is only justice. No doubt, General Thayer will consider this a gross insult to the University and all good citizens in general, for a man with such "questionable views of finance and delusive theories of free silver, 16 to 1" even to appear on the campus.

It is a common thing to see a crowd in front of Kimball Bros. marble works, at 1500 O street, gazing at the statuettes in the windows. The collection there is of real artistic merit. Great generals, admirals, statesmen and the beautiful works of the world's greatest masters are delicately modeled in marble composition. One interesting piece is the little coon who sits astride a chair with a half smoked cigarette in his mouth, while he leers at passers-by through his single eye-glass as though he were the swellest coon in town.

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