

THE HESPERIAN
BIXBY'S RETREAT

AN OPEN LETTER TO JIMMY SEARSON.

Prof. James W. Searson, Grand Island, Nebr. My Dear Jimmy:—You are no longer one of us. You who helped, counseled and often led us, have said "good bye" to your *Aima Mater* and left the old thing for us younger bloods to run. It makes me sad to think of it—the mere thought causes my breath to come in short drill pants. But, seriously, Jimmy we'll try to prove worthy of the trust.

For nearly four years, Jimmy, you and I have both given ourselves to the good of the institution; we have placed ourselves in the background; we have put aside all selfish motives; we have sacrificed our time, our energy, our hopes and our ambitions for the sake of the University. To begin with we squelched the five cent bath tyranny instigated by one R. E. Clark P. B. K.; we wrenched the oratorical association from the claws of the arch-enemy; we started the debating association and note what a *sonna* organization it is to-day; we shook our fists at the removal of Dr. Wolfe and the incident has not been repeated; we prayed for the freedom of the college press and it is being realized; we have never failed to laud merit and fairness in the student body; and have never failed to scorn flattery and hypocrisy even in high places.

Yet Jimmy, even you and I have our enemies. There are

those who call us "politicians," who say we try to "run things," and that for selfish ends. This we know is false. We never strove for college honors, we never accepted anything in which there was not ten times as much work as glory. Our religion our very lives show we believe it better to be smooth than president. We have done nothing that I would undo if I could. Let critics criticise and fibbers fib. Mere words can not harm you or me. In case of an emergency don't forget to wire.

Your old friend,

Bix.

Shake, Mr. Van Valin.

And you, too, Mr. Root.

And you, also, if you like, Mr. Pearson.

I'm feeling tough, I'm all upset,
My head is aching through and through;
My eyes are dim, my cheeks are thin,
I scarcely know what next to do.

I rant and roar, and tear my hair,
(Excuse—I hate to always croak)
And moan and groan, and curse and swear
To grind out our old weekly joke.

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