

THE HESPERIAN

Nebraska Debate.

"Should Uncle Sam construct and operate Nicaragua Canal?" At the weekly meeting of the Manila Debating Society in their hall in Binondo Saturday last, Mr. O. W. Meier was re-elected president for another three weeks term. After a brief musical program consisting of recitations and comic and sentimental songs, the debate opened on the question "Should the United States construct and operate the Nicaragua Canal?" The canal as a project was discussed from an engineering, financial and political standpoint. The negative debaters objected on the grounds of the difficult topography of the country and raised the question of the competition which must ensue between the big trunk lines of North America. The failure of the French lottery scheme with the Suez Canal and Mr. DeLesseps' ultimate downfall was held up as an example and warning and the bond question reviewed. The affirmative held up the Suez Canal as a favorable precedent, for their principal argument. The importance of the Suez Canal to England as a short cut to her rich oriental possessions and her diplomacy in gaining control in the ownership, was an example which in the probable event of American possession of the Philippines and our growing interests in China and Japan would be well to consider in regard to the Nicaragua Canal. This would be an important factor in our commerce, and as regards the maintenance of a larger fleet and army involved in the realization of such a scheme, our present Atlantic and Pacific fleet with such an increase as the eastern possessions would warrant, would surely be sufficient for a safeguard to this new highway of American commerce. Messrs. Motter, Riley and Sebotka debated on the affirmative and Messrs. Long, McElhoes and Pearson on the negative.

At the close of the debate it was proposed to hold joint debates with the other societies and a committee was appointed to arrange the same. The question next Saturday will be: "Should civilized countries have the right to conquer and subjugate semi-barbarous nations?"—Manila American.

The Junior Annual.

The Junior Annual is now an assured success. The book, much enlarged over all former editions, will be issued about the middle of April or the first of May. The board of editors are crowding the work forward as rapidly as possible. A great abundance of good material has already been handed in, and much more is in preparation. The editors will soon begin to cull the material over and prepare it for the printer. There will be a great many new features added to the Sombrero of the class of 1900, and a great many of the poor features of former annuals eliminated. One characteristic of the book will certainly be true, it will be original. A special effort is being made to include in it a great many cuts and drawings of individuals, of organizations, of classes, and of the University. The pictures for this purpose are being collected as fast as possible. Subscriptions are being solicited, several hundred subscribers having already signed.

The annual board express great hopes for their book, and

feel confident that it will compare very favorably with other annuals of its nature. The support of the student body and faculty in the enterprise is being well shown, and the outlook for the financial success of the book is not at all discouraging. Nearly every organization in the University has given hearty support.

The editors say that they still want more good material in the shape of rhymes, short snatches of prose or poetry, jokes, gags, cartoons and drawings of all kinds, in fact, any old thing that is of the spirit of the University. Jokes on individual professors and students are especially desired. All material should be handed in at once.

THE NEW PIPE ORGAN.

Conspicuous among those things to be added to the University in the year 1899 will be the large pipe organ recently purchased by the alumni association for the use of the University. The instrument is perhaps the largest and finest of its kind ever brought into the state. It was exhibited at Omaha last summer during the exposition and was pronounced by experts to be one of the highest grade, possessing unexcelled workmanship and in every way a thoroughly constructed instrument. Its tone is said to cover nearly all the instruments of a common orchestra and to be of sufficient volume for an auditorium seating three thousand persons. It is built of solid white oak, with hand carved pillars and tastefully decorated speaking tubes in the front. It has three manuals with forty-one stops and pedal movements of forte and piano combinations to both swell and great manuals, and balanced swell pedal. Its dimensions are 29 feet in height, 10 feet in depth, and 27 feet in width and contains 2,255 pipes.

The manufacturer, Mr. M. P. Moeller, of Hagerstown, Maryland, who exhibited the instrument at the exposition, has been in the business twenty-five years and is a master in the art of organ building. The regular price of the organ is \$7,000 or thereabouts, but the alumni association has been enabled to secure it at a much lower figure than this. The alumni, in securing this instrument for the University, are bestowing a magnificent gift upon their Alma Mater, and deserve the sincere gratitude of every person connected with the institution.

Resolutions of Sympathy.

WHEREAS, God, in His omnipotent wisdom, has deemed best to take unto Himself the beloved father of our president, therefore we, in behalf of all the members of the Union Literary Society of the Nebraska State University, extend our heartfelt sympathy, in this hour of bereavement, to Perse A. Morse and all those who held the departed dear; and, in submitting to the Divine Will, we commend them to Him who is ever a strength in time of trial.

LILIAN M. CHASE,
CLIFTON J. PLATT,
R. E. HULETT,
Committee.