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The condition of affairs in the library has bettered much, but there is still chance for improvement. There is no more exasperating circumstances for a person who wants to study than to be surrounded by a covey of giddy girls and one or two light-brained freaks of the other sex, and to have these persons keep up a buzz saw chattering about the last hop or the senseless gossip about society. The persons, who would knowingly interfere with the work of another by talking and laughing at the same table, do not deserve to be called ladies and gentlemen, and we are glad to state that they are few. THE HESPERIAN appeals to its friends to stand by Librarian Wyer in his efforts to maintain order. If you wish to talk with a friend go out into the hall. If you are annoyed by others, do not hesitate to ask them to stop their disturbance. Co-operation on the part of the students with the librarian will bring about an ideal state of affairs in the library.

Too much credit and appreciation cannot be given Mr. G. A. Benedict for the work and time he has spent the last few weeks in the interests of our local oratorical contest which takes place tonight. As secretary of both the local and state associations, he has had more than his hands full. The greater part of his time has been taken up in the endless amount of work always connected with such events, and he has done this at the sacrifice of everything else—his lessons included. No one without experience in such matters, can realize the time, worry and general disagreeableness of attempting to make a success of a thing of this kind, especially in a University like our own where college spirit and enthusiasm are imaginary quantities. No matter how hard a person works to make a thing a success, no matter how much time and energy he devotes, no matter if he has to throw up some of his studies, the one who tries to perform the duty placed upon him never receives even the thanks of those others who are concerned. We have an abundance of human nature in the University and this is one of the ways in

which it exhibits itself. The student who is wise is the student who shuts himself up to his own selfish self and does his own individual labors. But the moment he begins to associate with his fellow students, the moment he begins to circulate, as it were, among beings like himself, the moment he allows himself to join any organization with the view of becoming an active worker, and above all, the moment he allows himself to accept the honor (?) of any office, that moment he becomes a slave to his fellow students. And worse, his servitude is that kind which is to be "expected." Those who have had these experiences will appreciate these few reflections, and those who never have been honored with an office of any kind that required work, we would advise to seek office at once just for a little hard earned experience. They will find that the pleasure of holding office, as we say in slang, "is not what it is cracked up to be."

IF THERE is any thing which the University may be especially proud of, it is the provision for and maintenance of an historical seminar. Few institutions in adjoining states are equipped with such splendid facilities for pursuing a special course in research work, as is our own University.

The seminar room is not large nor expensively furnished, yet it is conveniently arranged within close access to the general library. For European history, the seminar contains some very valuable and rare collections, with more volumes constantly coming in. The American history department enjoys the advantages of, perhaps, as good a collection of official documents and source material as can be found in any of the states in the Mississippi valley.

The professors in charge of the seminar room take considerable pride in keeping it well arranged for the convenience of seminar students. Rules are posted for the proper regulation of this study room. As a general thing the dignity of the study periods is thoughtfully preserved by these special students in history who take considerable comfort in their workshop.

The students may be especially helpful in assisting the professors and the seminar workers to keep this room tidy and quiet. There has been a tendency of late for several students not taking seminar work to make this room a depository for books and texts. One seminar class was interrupted three times within fifteen minutes this week by students entering to get books.

The head of the department has ordered those not taking seminar work to remove their books from the shelves in that room. This is not done because the seminar people wish to form a scheduled aristocracy, but as a necessary protection for those who are following out special lines of intensive research. It is not the most agreeable thing imaginable to have three or four different parties enter a room and begin to shuffle books around while a class is reciting. Every reflecting student realizes this and will, no doubt, help to enforce the regulations of this study room.

The students of this university are enjoying usual privileges in being permitted to use the stack rooms freely and most of them appreciate these.