

THE HESPERIAN

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INTER-STATE ORATORICAL ASSOCIATION.

Contest of 1899 at Lincoln, Nebr., May 5.

Fred B. Hill, president...Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.
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 J. E. Thomas.....Greencastle, Ind.
 Robt. A. Ward.....Ruthland, Ind.
 S. R. Williams.....Appleton, Wis.
 A. Dakan.....Boulder, Col.
 R. M. Corbitt.....Hopkinton, Ia.
 C. E. Pendlon.....Liberty, Mo.

THE remarks by Dr. Fling at the Athletic mass meeting were well put. He said that the student body of the University of Nebraska is sadly lacking in college spirit and that the faculty is expected to bear the burden of the greater part of expenses of athletics. We are sorry to admit the truth of this. Student enterprises of the University of Nebraska are not well supported. Had the foot-ball team been well supported there would not have been a deficit of four hundred and fifty dollars at the end of the session. The cause of this lack of spirit is a hard one to locate. Principally, it seems to be that too many students are overcrowding themselves with work. They come here and expect to crowd four years work into two or three and as a consequence are forced to work night and day and when they leave college, they are sallow, round-shouldered, weak-eyed specimens. Such students imagine that they do not have time to think of athletics and if they should ever give way to their feelings and yell, once, they would look back and regret it as wasted energy.

Not only is this lethargy manifest in athletics but also in debating, in oratory, in fact, no one patronizes anything unless he be specially interested in it. The junior class is creating some excitement this year in its campaign against senior canes and the HESPERIAN believes it is a good thing. We want more class spirit. We want more University spirit.

The Athletic Mass Meeting.

As had been previously announced, a mass meeting was held in chapel Wednesday morning to take action on athletic matters. It was expected that Chancellor MacLean and several of the regents would speak, but owing to the serious illness of Regent Weston's daughter, they were not present. Dr. Ward, president of the Athletic Board, presided at the meeting and reported the conditions. He said that the honor of the University is endangered by the condition of athletics. The Board of Regents and the Athletic Board look at the matter from a business standpoint. Financial Secretary Max Westerman has advised that athletics be dropped entirely if the remaining debt of \$250 cannot be raised at once. At the close of the foot-ball season, the association was \$450 in debt. Since then contributions amounting to \$130 have been received from the faculty and \$65 from the student body. Dr. Ward said he would leave the matter with the student body. If they do not wish athletics to be dropped, let them say so. The board cannot go on without better support. These obligations stand against the University and they must be met. He said that the board should have elected a foot-ball coach some weeks ago but it did not dare to do so. If the association cannot pay its past debts, there is no use of incurring new ones. Dr. Ward called upon Dr. Pound who responded with a short appeal to the students and a bank note as a contribution from himself. He said that the question now before the University is whether it is to remain in Class A among great universities or is to be allowed to slip back into Class B.

Rev. L. P. Ludden was called upon and kept the crowd in a roar by his fund of funny stories.

A motion was made and carried that a contribution be taken at once and the chair appointed Williams, Melford, Story, Andreson, Moore, Barr, Stewart, Abbott and Misses Tukey and Hammond as collectors. In all a total of \$210 was either collected or pledged, leaving still a deficit of about \$40. Dr. Wentz contributed \$5, Delta Gamma \$5, R. A. Emerson \$5 and the Y. M. C. A. \$10.

Union Boys' Program.

Last Saturday evening the boys of the Union Literary Society gave their annual program in the chapel. They rendered the play "The Freeman Mill Strike" a comedy in three acts and the boys did justice to themselves in every respect. A crowded house awaited them as the curtain was raised after a well rendered instrumental solo by Miss Anderson. The first scene was in the parlor of a wealthy mill owner, Mr Freeman. Other scenes were in the woods, and for all the scenes curtains were specially prepared, and arranged by the boys.