

# THE NEBRASKAN-HESPERIAN

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FIVE CENTS.

## PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

### Find Favor in Plan of Ultimately Moving University to the State Farm.

To a large majority of the students of the university the particular part of the report by Acting Chancellor Bessey to the board of regents last week which referred to the building of a new university opened their eyes to a few facts that they little dreamed were in existence. Each one knew that in the immediate future steps must be taken to provide for the largely increasing attendance. But none thought of this improvement as anywhere except upon the city campus. Had it been hinted that the state farm would be the future home of the institution, students would have been incredulous. In spite of this, the plan unfolded to the board of regents shows much that is practical and will furnish those so inclined with much food for thought during the next few years.

While the completion of such plans seems to be far off, the necessity for immediate action is made so clear that steps of practical value will undoubtedly be taken at no distant date. In fact, the appointment of Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings Ellsworth to draw up plans for the future institution marked the first move of consequence looking to this end.

That some steps of this nature must be taken sooner or later no one doubts. When the advisable time will be is uncertain. It is partially explained by the fact that certain parts of the institution will be moved to the farm as soon as it is possible to provide the proper equipments. Under the provisions of the present plan it is intended to add gradually to the departments situated at the farm and at the same time relieve the buildings on the city campus. Realizing that the most essential factor in making this idea a success is a definite plan of procedure, the regents acted upon the suggestion offered and made arrangements to have the general plan for the entire new university made out before any further work has been accomplished.

Chancellor Bessey estimates that it will require at least twenty-five years to transfer the bulk of the buildings and the work to the farm. This period is rather too short than too long. The work mapped out is by far the most far-reaching in its effects of anything that has been presented for years to any board of regents. The point not exactly clear is the reason for allowing the college of medicine, the law school and the school of fine arts to remain upon the site of the present campus. It seems fitting that if the overwhelming majority of the students are to go to the farm, that each and every one should do so. It would mean a better and more fitting chance for the students to get in touch with one another; would increase the spirit of the institution; would be a benefactor to athletics, and would mean in the course of time a feeling of love for their alma

mater by the students that is now totally out of the question.

With the proper street car facilities to and from the city, it would require only a few minutes to make the trip; or, for students coming from out of town, nothing would be more successful than a carefully arranged system of dormitories. It could also be arranged that the various fraternities could have chapter houses in the immediate vicinity. In other words, a university city would ultimately be the result. It is true that this condition would be far more ideal than anything which can be dreamed of now. However, is it impossible or improbable? Bearing in mind the circumstances under which the university exists, we would say that it is not. As was shown in the beginning of these few remarks, a change of some kind is an ultimate necessity. Bearing this in mind, is there any reason why the change should not be completely revolutionary when it is made, and why, with proper care and management at this time, the move cannot be made a great success?

Both this plan and the one for all-year-round work have been placed before regents, faculty, alumni and students. The questions will determine the future of learning in Nebraska, inasmuch as it regulates the crowning piece of the entire educational system.

## DELIAN PLAY.

The Delian dramatic club rendered the five act comedy entitled "A Soldier of Fortune" in the university chapel Saturday evening. The play was given by a strong cast of characters. It abounded in strong scenic effects and humorous witticisms. Both the main floor and the gallery were filled by an enthusiastic audience, which gave expressions of approval by repeated applause. The chief characteristics of the play were the apparently bombastic yet noble character of the old colonel; the keen, shrewd actions of the villain; the prim old maidishness of Miss Prucilla, together with the comical dandy, Snowball. The strong scenes of the play were the colonel's recounting his war reminiscences in comical phrases to Miss Prucilla; the colonel's noble defense of Snowball, who resented the villain's insult to the doctor; the attempt to blow up the doctor's office with dynamite; Snowball's plea to substitute and Patrona's death by lightning; the colonel's restoration of the Belmont estate and his reunion with Prucilla.

J. F. Boomer in the role of the colonel and E. N. Robertson as the villain showed great ability in carrying out their characters. Miss Mae Buckmaster as Miss Prucilla captivated the audience by characterizing an old maid desperately in love. Miss Flossie Archer and Miss Anna Saults portrayed their characters well. As comic characters E. M. Dunaway convulsed the audience by his splendid portrayal of the negro, and R. A. Harrison acted the role of Freddie Belmont. W. H. Reedy spoke the Irish brogue fluently, and C. W. Jones, as the millionaire, played the old man with good effect. H. M. Garrett, nephew to Belmont, played the impetuous young man with good success. M. D. Baker proved himself to have ability as an amateur. During the intermissions J. T. Jones pleased the audience with excellent music.

## COMMITTEEMEN'S DINNER.

### Members of Young Men's Christian Association Spend Very Enjoyable Evening.

The annual committeemen's dinner given by the members of the university Y. M. C. A. occurred Thursday evening at the Grand hotel. About eighty persons were present to enjoy the hospitality of the association and none regretted being in attendance.

Tables were arranged on three sides of the dining room, with the toastmaster in the center of the connecting side. Several courses were served. Between each college songs were sung by those present. President J. J. King acted as toastmaster. On his right was Chancellor Bessey and on his left Dr. B. L. Paine. Clergymen of the city and other visitors were immediately adjacent. Members of the association were seated along the side tables.

After the dinner was completed President King reviewed the work that had been done by the organization during the present school year, showing how an entirely new membership list had been started in September, which now numbered two hundred and fifteen names. Every effort would be put forth by the membership committee to increase this number to three hundred in the near future. Other work done in different lines was taken up and reviewed briefly. After these remarks Chancellor Bessey was introduced to tell of the necessity of the organization to the university. He paid a glowing tribute to the work already done and predicted a most brilliant and successful future.

Dr. Paine spoke to some length upon the "Christian Man in Business." The popularity of the speaker, coupled with the excellent advice given in his remarks, was sufficient to give him an ovation when he had concluded. Rev. Dr. Rowlands gave words of encouragement and foretold the good results which might come, as well as seconding the remarks by Dr. Paine. Other speakers were Secretary Sinclair of Dayton, O., and Secretary Willis of Omaha. Both aroused enthusiasm by the remarks made and impressed upon all the necessity of united action and general good fellowship.

## MEETING OF REGENTS.

The board of regents met on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. No action was taken upon the election of a chancellor and an adjournment was taken without setting a date for a meeting earlier than the next regular session. This occurs about February 15.

One of the prominent actions taken was an agreement to consider the plan of Acting Chancellor Bessey for an all-year session of the university. This was referred to the regular regents' committee on courses of study. A step was also taken in regard to the ground for new buildings. Dr. Bessey prophesied that, with the present rapid development of the university, it would be necessary to move the greater number of the colleges to the state farm within the next twenty-five years. Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings Ellsworth was asked to draw up a ground plan of the university when it shall be necessary to have more campus room than at present. The special committee on the chancellorship did not report.

To increase the efficiency of the agricultural school a committee was appointed to secure suggestions from other institutions. The development of the dairy school is at present the most important question. The committee consists of Professors Lyon and Burnett and Mr. Haecker. A committee consisting of Professors Lyon, Burnett and Emerson will give a similar report in regard to the agricultural college.

A bureau of publicity was established, with H. G. Shedd as publisher. After considering the matter of fire protection the regents ordered the purchase of a number of fire extinguishers.

The donation of Major Pershing for a memorial tablet was accepted and the board will in some way increase the fund to a sufficient amount. This tablet will be placed in the new addition to Grant memorial hall in honor of Colonel Stotsenburg and others connected with the university who were in the late war.

Bids on the construction of the addition to Grant memorial hall will be advertised for, to be opened at the February meeting. It is hoped the building will be completed August 1.

The forestry experiments will be continued. These were begun by the United States department of agriculture, but were turned over to the department of horticulture of the university.

An additional library assistant was provided for. In a short time the agricultural and experiment station libraries will be moved to the farm as a branch of the main library. The new assistant will have charge of these books.

A set of rules was adopted for the guidance of the university examiner. The cadet battalion was given the privilege of adopting the regulation United States army uniform. This change was requested as less expensive and more satisfactory.

Dr. W. W. Hastings was given a three weeks' leave of absence. He is making anthropometric investigations in Mexico. Permission was granted for the continuance of the summer school next summer. All appointments suggested by Acting Chancellor Bessey were confirmed. J. I. Wyer, jr., acting librarian, was made librarian. Professor Nicholson, head of the department of chemistry, asked leave of absence without pay for a year, beginning January 1. He was granted leave and Dr. John White was elected head of the department.

## DEATH OF MRS. PETTIS.

Mrs. Bertha H. Pettis, wife of E. F. Pettis, died Friday at noon at her home, 1919 Prospect street, aged 38 years. She leaves surviving four children. Mrs. Pettis was a woman of a very lovable disposition and had many close friends in Lincoln. She was a graduate at the Lincoln high school, of the University of Nebraska and of Wellesley college. She took her degree in the state university in 1881 and graduated from Wellesley in 1888. She spent a year in Europe and on returning was principal of the ladies' college at Fargo, S. D. For a while previous to her study abroad Mrs. Pettis was a teacher in the Lincoln schools. She was married in 1891. Mrs. Pettis was a sister of Edward A. and J. P. Howard of this city. Her mother resides at Nebraska City. The funeral occurred Monday.