

# THE NEBRASKAN-HESPERIAN

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FIVE CENTS.

## SECRETARY WILSON TALKS

Addresses the Students in Chapel a Few Minutes on Topics of General Interest.

Secretary James Wilson of the department of agriculture, Washington, D. C., addressed the students in chapel Tuesday morning. As he stepped upon the rostrum he was greeted with applause followed by the college yell. The chapel was crowded to its full capacity and it was difficult for late-comers to find standing room. Mr. Wilson spoke in part as follows:

"I look in your faces this morning with peculiar emotion. The newspapers tell us that one of the greatest debates in the national congress is coming off this week in regard to the Philippine islands, whether they are to be parts of the United States, whether they are to be managed as colonies, or whether they are to have a local government.

"In looking over Nebraska I have a peculiar pride in much that has been done here. We have colonized Nebraska. We were almost heartbroken when we lost men like Dr. Bessey, but it was well that Dr. Bessey came here. I said recently to a committee of congress, 'Give me higher salaries; all our able men are leaving us.' They replied, 'It is good they do not go out of the United States. We are all Americans and we do not lose anything by having these men go to other states. We are not going to increase the salaries.' It makes no difference whether Dr. Bessey is in Iowa or Nebraska. How grand it was when you came to occupy Nebraska! How grand it was that the wise men, the pioneers, gave you a university, and such a university as is scarcely found elsewhere in the Mississippi valley. I am proud of the facilities of Nebraska for higher education.

"You have certain state assets. You have a magnificent soil as one of your best assets. If you young people had time to visit the older parts of the United States and see what they have done with their fertility you would have it more strongly impressed upon you that you should take care of this soil. It is wise you should set about studying what you should sell from Nebraska; whether you should send out of the state the soil as others have done, or whether you should study how you should best sell skill, and as the butter men are doing, sell atmosphere in the shape of butter. Nebraska is ahead of Iowa. Nebraska is making sugar and Iowa is buying it. It is magnificent that you have here in this beautiful city of Lincoln the beginnings whereby you can study into the secrets of nature and learn to sell skill instead of shipping off wheat and grain."

Mr. Wilson then gave some statistics showing the large amount of grain and various products of the soil furnished by the United States to Denmark. He finished by saying that he was glad that Nebraska was not going to aid the Danes in their butter-making industry in this manner.

## BENTON IN CHAPEL.

Dr. A. R. Benton of Irvington, Ind., first chancellor of the University of Nebraska, gave a very interesting and instructive address in chapel Monday morning, February 19. The room was filled to its utmost capacity and the appearance of Dr. Benton was greeted

with applause. He spoke, in part, as follows:

"I deem it a very great pleasure to stand in this place after a lapse of thirty years and again look the students in the face and say a few words to them. I am not one of those who think that former times were better than these. It is generally thought that persons advanced in years are constantly going back to former times and thinking that those times were better than the present. When I look into the faces of young people as I do this morning I look into the future—the has nothing for me."

Speaking of the faculty of those days, Dr. Benton said: "I think we had six or eight members of the faculty and one or two assistants. Now, compare that number with that you have today. You have a faculty today, many of whom are known in a national way, whose text books are used in other schools and colleges.

"Comparing the early conditions of this school with the present surroundings, shall we not say that the present infinitely transcends anything we had in the beginning? Have I not a right to recognize the development of the state and of the university? You have just begun to scratch the surface. In fifteen or twenty-five years from this time the population of the state will double. It will be a great state. You ought to be proud of your state, and you ought to be proud of your university. Wherever you go your voice should be raised in favor of the university, upholding its influence and power."

## WORDS OF COMMENDATION.

In an address delivered before the American association for the advancement of science at Columbus, O., last summer, but just published, entitled "The Progress and Problem of Plant Physiology," Dr. Charles R. Barnes pays the following high tribute to the work of certain graduates of the University of Nebraska: "The Phytogeography of Nebraska, published a year or two ago by Drs. Pound and Clements, is the first extended study on plant geography in this country along distinctively ecological lines. The care and completeness with which their investigation was made render it a good example for future students of our flora."

## SWINE BREEDERS MEET.

The swine breeders' association met in the chapel Tuesday morning. As there had been no meeting for two years, there was a small attendance. Chancellor Bessey welcomed the association and President Bronson responded to the address. Secretary of Agriculture delivered a short speech. After this J. L. Barton discussed the "Future of the Thoroughbred Hog," followed by a paper presented by Dr. Peters. Wednesday morning several topics were also discussed.

## NEBRASKA FRATERNITIES.

In the Omaha Bee for Sunday, February 18, is a fine cut of sixteen of the fraternity pins of the University of Nebraska. The article concerning the fraternities says: "Fraternity life in the University of Nebraska has become a part of the institution only in the last four years. Before this there were fraternities in the university, but they were struggling for their very existence, while now it is rather a struggle between the fraternities."

## SOPHOMORES STILL AT IT.

Spend Four Hours on Friday Afternoon and End With Decisive Split.

The fight that started in the sophomore class two weeks ago is still on in full force with no sign of immediate abatement. An adjourned meeting was held in chapel Friday afternoon, and the personalities that characterized the previous meeting of the class were resumed. The first hour was consumed in going over the ground already covered, and no progress whatever was made. By the second hour things had warmed up and it began to look dangerous.

It was finally moved to rescind all former action on the annual. The motion was declared out of order by the president, whereupon an appeal was taken to the house, in which the chair was not sustained. The vote was then taken and the proceedings in regard to the annual were rescinded.

It was moved and carried after a great deal of discussion that the class set out an annual the following year. However, the motion to elect a board was declared to be out of order by the president on the ground that it was unconstitutional. It was the same stand that the president had taken on previous occasions. As the appeal to the house had been carried by a bare majority, it was impossible for this majority to change the constitution, which required a two-thirds vote.

The motion to adjourn was made and the president and a large number of persons in the room departed. A portion of the class, however, remained and attempted a new class organization.

In the meantime nearly all of those who had left the room went to the gallery and caused considerable disturbance. At the request of the party below Janitors McReynolds and Uhl cleared the gallery. Nearly all retired peaceably, but a few needed extra persuasion. This persuasion was found in abundance in the make-up of the janitors and peace was restored.

The members of the class in chapel elected Dasebrock president and proceeded to choose a junior annual board. Fred A. Cuscaden and H. M. Garrett were made editors-in-chief and C. E. Wells and E. C. Smith business managers. It was voted to elect the associate editors at a later date. Over \$200 was pledged toward getting out a book.

Unless matters are patched up at an early date it is evident that two books will be gotten out during the coming year. Both sides are taking hold of the matter actively and declare that they are in the right and do not intend to give up. It is given out that the side with the appointment board is ready to compromise, but any advances are refused by the other members of the class.

## COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

The board of regents of the University of Michigan at a meeting held recently considered the advisability of establishing several new courses in the literary department which would meet more perfectly the peculiar needs of certain interests or careers. The titles of these courses are (1) diplomatic and consular education, (2) higher commercial education, (3) preparation for newspaper work, (4) preparation for pastoral work and public philanthropy,

(5) instruction in public administration.

The courses in diplomatic and consular education and in higher commercial education, when organized, will lay stress upon special attainments along three lines as follows: (1) An understanding of the legal rights and duties of business relations as expounded in general commercial law, (2) familiarity with the evolution of industrial organization and business methods as expressed in political, social and industrial history, and (3) an appreciation of the physical conditions and economic laws under which industry and commerce must be carried on, as presented in the study of commercial geography and political economy.

The subjects from which the major portion of the work entering into the five courses now being considered is taken are: English, history, economics, sociology, statistics, international law, general and commercial law, history of education, philosophy and languages.

## HARVARD AND NEBRASKA.

A recent catalogue of Harvard university shows that the total enrollment for the current year is four thousand nine hundred and forty-seven. The total number of teachers is four hundred and forty-eight. The proportion of teachers to students is one to eleven, which is almost exactly the proportion in the University of Nebraska. Of the teachers in Harvard thirty-one and one-half per cent are professors of various grades, while in the University of Nebraska but twenty-two and one-half per cent hold this rank. The Harvard college students, corresponding to the academic college of this university, number one thousand and two, which is about double the number in this university. In Harvard, again, the scientific school, corresponding nearly to the industrial college, numbers four hundred and ninety-five, while the industrial college in Nebraska numbers about the same. The Harvard graduate school includes three hundred and twenty-six students, as against about one hundred and fifty in the University of Nebraska. Harvard's great numbers are given it by its large law school, six hundred and thirteen; its medical schools, seven hundred and three, and its summer school, eight hundred and fifty-six.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

Editors of the Nebraskan-Hesperian: I ask of you the privilege of your columns for a small communication. Last Tuesday morning, a very good chapel-going student knows, James Wilson, secretary of the department of agriculture, Washington, and member of the president's cabinet, was permitted to give a short talk to the students of this university. It was, in fact, a very short talk, and we know Secretary Wilson could have spoken a greater length had the powers that be seen fit to allow him to do so. Every one knows what occurred at the finish. We seldom get to hear a man in such high circles as Secretary Wilson, and when the opportunity did come a five-minute talk was all that was allowed him, when an hour would have been too short. Still, we know of many men of less note and affairs of much less importance that have taken up the next hour, and still were not so profitable to the students. We like to hear what a great man has to say, and we hope last Tuesday was an object lesson to some.

STUDENT.