

THE HESPERIAN STUDENT

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Editorial.

ON behalf of those who visited Crete from the University, we return to the students of Doane thanks for the many preparations that were made for our pleasure and comfort. No kinder treatment could have been wished. The cold weather, it is true, prevented the carrying out of many things, yet the intention was there—the means had been provided. The STUDENT is not at all satisfied with the result of the contest, but for the students of Doane College, their hospitality, thoughtfulness and generosity, it has only respect and good will.

THE STUDENT is afraid many of the University students were not aware of how gum chewing looked in an opera house. It would not raise any class of students in our estimation if at a public entertainment in Lincoln they should all make that delightful jaw music caused by chewing gum. Put others in the same position you were in last Friday night at Crete, and then imagine how it would look. We have no desire to do more than call the attention of the students to this matter, as their own judgement will tell them if, at the late contest, they did the proper thing.

UNFORTUNATELY some of the greatest evils of American politics are fostered at college. Students who are trying to fit themselves for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship should aim at something higher than mere skill in wire-pulling and bull-doing. Yet how often do we have a society election, or even a business meeting of any consequence, at which these arts are not practiced? It is perfectly proper for any one to use all honorable means, such as arguments or

persuasion, to secure the passage of a measure or the election of a candidate. But all underhanded schemes such as threats, misrepresentations, unfair rulings and challenging votes upon mere technical grounds should be beneath the dignity of the students.

THE literary society at the college farm has decided to give an exhibition two weeks from next Wednesday night. This will be the first entertainment of the kind ever undertaken by the farm boys. This year, as during previous years, they have had a well organized society, meeting every Saturday night, and doing good work. But heretofore they have never seen fit to let the public know what they were capable of doing. Now that they have decided to have an exhibition, the STUDENT takes pleasure in announcing the same. In the coming years there is no reason why this should not be one of the constant features of Commencement week. As it lies wholly within the power of the farm society to make it such we have no doubt that it will hereafter rank along with the other society exhibitions.

It again becomes the painful duty of the STUDENT to allude to a habit which some of our hitherto respectable students are acquiring. In an institution for higher education honor should be held high. Whatever other vices we may have, we should not be lacking in personal integrity. If for any reason one does not feel prepared to pass an honest examination in a study, the honorable path to pursue is the right one. Better a thousand times to endure the disgrace of failure than the questionable honor of passing (?) by means of organized deceit. We learn that in a recent examination concealed books and prepared notes were used by several members of the class. This is not only dishonor but cowardice, and should be frowned upon by every respectable student. If the professors would show greater vigilance and the students strive to raise the moral tone of the institution, we believe this evil might be averted.

IF a stranger should find himself in a knot of students, their conversation would be about equally intelligible with so much Chinese. Vague allusions to events, past, present and future, which have no earthly interest to anyone except the initiated are the rule. College expressions are so numerous that we can almost say that the students have a dialect of their own. Law and medicine have their distinct nomenclatures, why not we? There is no objection at all. But what do we think of the lawyer or physician who constantly makes use of technical expressions peculiar to his particular profession, but

Greek to those "outside the pale?" The sensible man shrugs his shoulders and sets the offender down as a pedant or a fool. Now, although among themselves students are at perfect liberty to converse after their own fashion, would it not be more in accordance with true politeness, when comparative strangers are among them, to use the vernacular common to all English speaking people?

To say that the students of Doane College and of the University are indignant over the indecision manifested by the judges chosen to decide upon the respective merits of the participants in the late contest, would be superfluous. We were very happy to be informed that the productions were "excellent;" but, as Lieut. Webster said, "we knew that before," and to be paternally patted upon the head and told to "try again, children, it will do you good," was not the object of our visit to Crete. It is all very well in theory to say that literary productions should be measured by the amount of the actual benefit derived, but such is not the sole object aimed at in these contests. Why not tell us that the student should burn his productions as soon as written, because the applause of an audience is a false stimulus? Students no less than men engaged in practical life want something definite, tangible, to show for their efforts. We think we but echo the sentiments of the students of the University when we say that an adverse decision would have been preferable to such ambiguity as characterized the verdict rendered.

WE notice that the *Journal* was so well pleased with the debate of Messrs. Yates and Stephens that it made editorial mention of the same. It is gratifying to students to know that their efforts are appreciated. While we too "pronounce the arguments of both gentlemen very admirable and exhaustive exponents of the issue, better upon the whole than have been made on the stump by regular politicians of the state," still the STUDENT was surprised to hear Mr. Stephens make so many slighting remarks concerning his opponent's argument. He indulged in too much brow-beating. Some of this may be overlooked, but when he openly and explicitly accused Mr. Yates of plagiarism at best, he carried matters too far. No doubt it was for effect upon the decision of the judges, as he afterwards went to Mr. Yates and apologized for using such language. He tried to ingratiate himself again into the good graces of the one whom he had wronged and still keep the audience under the impression that his opponent was a thief. It is the humble opinion of this paper that the man who would do this lacks some of the elements of a true gentleman. In justice to Mr