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EDITORIAL NOTES.

A MUCH needed improvement of our campus has been made in the cutting down of the short lived cottonwoods, so as to allow the younger and more lasting trees to develop more rapidly. It was a short-sighted policy in the first place, which planted so many worthless trees upon our campus, and we are heartily glad that a new one has been inaugurated.

AMONG the important questions to be decided by the present meeting of the regents is that of the location of the two new buildings. Perhaps our opinion may not be in place, being only the opinion of mere students, yet we cannot refrain from giving voice to the student opinion that certain plans which are proposed by some, of grouping the buildings upon the southeast corner of the campus, or on the east side, would most certainly be ridiculous. No space would be saved, no convenience gained, while the chance of ever making our campus a thing of beauty would be forever lost. If the Science hall were plac-

ed on the southwest corner, the two science buildings would *not* be too far apart, while the arrangement of all of the buildings would be far more artistic.

THE progress made in certain lines of the Scientific course during the past two years has been such as to bring out more clearly the weakness in other lines. We have specialists in chemistry and botany, but we compel our specialist in geology to teach mineralogy, paleontology, crystallography, zoology, entomology, conchology, etc. One professor cannot handle so many branches and do justice to each. Zoology and its specialized parts, conchology, entomology and ornithology, should have a special professor, and our professor in geology be left in his own sphere, just as much as specialists employed in botany or chemistry. This subject merits consideration, for we believe that the excellent system, already started here, of employing specialists should be carried out.

THERE seems to have been some objection upon the part of members of the faculty to consenting to the leave of absence to the cadets who go to the annual spring encampment. It seems that there are members of our faculty who can see but very little good in any step which does not advance the student in their particular branch of study, but goes to excite an interest in some other branch. There are some, too, who seem to think that all time spent in anything other than eating, sleeping and studying or reciting, is time wasted, and grudge the student a day or an hour of recreation. This spirit is small and unworthy of our professors. Two days out of school work is more than doubly repaid by the knowledge of military field life and by the rest and change of scene. It is a good custom and an abridgement of that privilege would in our opinion, be a narrow and short sighted policy.

THE inter-state oratorical association has again met and Illinois captures first place, while Nebraska, sad to relate, does her share by filling the ninth and last place. This contest brings to mind the various quarrels among the state colleges as to the justness of decisions and the petty rivalries which inevitably accompany local contests. In several states there have been quarrels of no small moment which have necessarily been the cause of a feeling between the differ-