

the expression in THE HESPERIAN of opinions on moral, or economic questions, or on questions pertaining strictly to University matters. It is only when that strange topic, politics, is touched upon that the cry "partisanship" is raised. We admit that all subjects, in newspapers and out, should be treated in a fair and impartial manner. But to limit the "Comments" editor to purely automatic discussions would be to deprive his articles of any force whatever.

IT is now almost a year since a certain fraternity man sent a very gleeful letter to his fraternity journal. In spite of its age the letter is interesting reading now. We make a few extracts for the amusement of our readers. "These are bright and merry days for the Greek cause in the University of Nebraska. We have now six enthusiastic and progressive fraternities. The 'barbs' have divided, forming a third barbarian society, and as a result, are weaker than before. The rivalry in the U. of N. is now not between 'frats' and 'barbs' but between 'frats' and 'frats' for the best men. Sigma Chi is well satisfied with her present standing, and has no fears for the future. During the year we have transferred seven of the strongest, is not the seven strongest of enemy to the ranks of Sigma Chi. * * * In the local oratorical contest, the fraternities were not represented. In the state contest the, University was defeated. Whether there is any connection between the two incidents, we do not venture to say." Comment is unnecessary, for all can make their own application.

COLLEGE friendships are notorious for their warmth and long duration in after years. Anything which tends to violently sever such friendships is to be deplored. In our own experience nothing but positive insults from one friend to another produces this undesirable result so quickly as for one of two friends to join a fraternity. All the twaddle about its "making no difference in our friendship" is false. It does make a difference and any observing student can see that it does. True friendship requires confidence and complete trust. The moment one of two friends joins a fraternity this is made impossible. There is and always will be antagonism between the members of secret societies and those outside. Each faction distrusts the other, and not unreasonably. The friend that is within the "mystic circle" feels it necessary to preserve a certain reserve, and is apt to assume a degree of superiority. For the moment too he is much enamored of his new "brothers." All this does not tend to make the barbarian friend pour out his soul in confidence and his heart in affection. He feels

hurt and draws back into himself. Then comes the natural distrust of one who meets in mysterious conclave and leaves his friend for a whispered consultation with some "brother." Friendship between two persons thus situated is false and is only kept up for appearance sake. There may be no open rupture, but the life and spirit of friendship have vanished. This is no fancy sketch, but an occurrence which we have seen many times in the past few years. If you have a friend to whom suddenly a fraternity becomes extremely polite and attentive, take warning. If you care for that friend, and do not desire to part company with him you must use your best endeavor to keep him out of that fraternity. Do not passively let him be drawn away from you by a set of mercenaries who may simply want a new man or a new pocket-book to draw upon. You will not only be working for your own advantage, but for your friend's welfare as well. Do not allow a little secret clique to take from your happiness by destroying your friendships.

IN many respects the occurrences at the Wesleyan University on the night of November 15 were unfortunate. We feel sure that at least one class in the University will agree with us in the above sentiment. But we mean this in a more serious way. Conflicts between students are regarded as a regular part of the curriculum, and are thought little of. But when conflicts occur between students and outsiders, especially those in authority, public censure is likely to be even more severe than is just. Such affairs place the University and its students in an unenviable light, and injure the general reputation of the institution.

If the Sophomores had quietly run off the street cars, and thus caused the Freshmen a delay of an hour or so, we should have felt much like joining in the general laugh, at the Freshmen's expense. But the attempt to take property from the owner by force, and, failing in this, to damage it, was going entirely too far. We have considerable sympathy for the Sophomores in the heavy penalty they suffered, but cannot help feeling that the lesson may teach students in future to restrict practical joking to its proper limits. The newspapers of the state are very prone to seize upon such an affair and by exaggeration and misrepresentation do the University much harm.

WHEN anyone openly opposes college fraternities, the first charge usually made by the fraternity men is, "Oh, he is a sorehead. The fraternities would not have him and he has soured on them." This simply shows the narrow-minded egotism and wilful unfairness of the accusers. How