

gations and other troubles peculiar to the infant stage of intellectual development, seemed to be peculiarly infatuated with university life and are still several steps below the top of the ladder. They were wise. They will enjoy for many years to come the privilege of swinging Indian clubs, performing on the bar, blacking each others eyes and many more recreations of a like nature. The gymnasium will fill a long felt want. No longer is there any excuse for the boys to kick the plastering off the ceilings and to climb the steam pipes. No longer is there any excuse for persistent loafing around the halls. We hope that all students in general and new students in particular will avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the gymnasium. To all those who were instrumental in having the gymnasium fitted up the students should be grateful, but especial thanks are due to Lieutenant Griffith who has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of the students.

SOME time since THE HESPERIAN ventured to suggest a few changes in the present management of the library. Evidently the advise was in vain, but this does not discourage us and we venture to repeat at least a part of our advise and to urge the powers that be to give it serious consideration. This plan is that the library be open five evenings each week. It seems that the growth of the institution demands such a change. In some of the departments the students must do the greater amount of their work in the library and under the present state of affairs they are absolutely unable to accomplish the best results. The department of history will serve well to illustrate this point. In the elective courses of the above named department it is obviously a financial impossibility for students to purchase the necessary books; and some classes are so large that it is found exceedingly difficult for all the members of it to do as good work as might be done if the library were open a few hours in the evening. Then it would not be necessary to allow anyone to draw out the books needed by the classes and thus the librarian would be spared much trouble. This change could be effected at very little cost and it seems that if the student body is to receive the most good possible from the library that it should be accomplished. Of what use is a large library if it is not fully utilized? This change will we feel sure be brought about in the near future. Why not begin this year?

WHILE the first Nebraska inter-collegiate field day was not an entire success, when viewed from a financial standpoint, yet it was as much of a success as one could well hope for. The association

is a very juvenile institution—not yet a year old, and it was to be expected that it could not be an unqualified success. But anything that tends to bring together in friendly contests students of the different institutions should be encouraged on account of the mutual advantages to be derived. Nor is there any reason why the association may not in time develop so that it will be a financial success. The one thing needed is that students of the state take sufficient interest in the association. Let all of the colleges begin now to train the men and the next field day will be more of a success than the last one was. Here it may not be out of place to urge the athletes of the U. of N. to make more preparation than they did last year. With a larger attendance than that of any institution in the state, the University of Nebraska should win a correspondingly larger number of prizes. But this was not the case last year and unless special effort is made it will not be the case this year. Last year base ball was a decided success. Why not have inter-collegiate contest in foot ball and tennis as well as in base ball this year. Last year a beginning was made in tennis. Why not continue in that line? These inter-collegiate contests are beneficial because they serve to broaden the minds of the students. A student who has never seen anything outside of his own little college circle is apt to be so narrow in his views as to imagine that there is nothing of merit outside of his own college. Inter-collegiate contests do much to overcome this feeling and for this reason they should be encouraged.

DURING all last year rumors, more or less threatening, reached our notice, that in the near future the fraternities would establish a paper to represent their interests. These rumors have now ceased to oppress the air and THE HESPERIAN starts out upon the new year with no opponent in sight. This is to be regretted. There is not much satisfaction in fighting a system that is either too weak to defend itself or else dares not do so, for some other reason. And were it not for the underhanded manner in which fraternity members 'work' students, we would be willing to treat their efforts with silent contempt. But fraternities thrive best when barbs remain silent concerning them. Frats wish members to join them without ever having heard the other side of the question. In view of this fact we may be pardoned for asking the new students whom the frats have been 'working', if the aforesaid aggregations have boasted of the high literary abilities that they possess. If they ever explained why it is that the Philodicean society is somewhat of a literary failure, and has been kept alive only because occasionally the frats have secured the initiation of some members of the other societies. Do the members of