

The Spectrum.

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THE SUPREMACY OF AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENTS.

Little more than a third of a century ago, this country was engaged in a great civil war, which left it in a condition from which a nation of less inherent vitality would never have recovered. Swept by fire and sword, its industries ruined, its resources destroyed, its government financially bankrupt, its organization in a state of tottering weakness, our country, emerging from the fierce death struggle, was almost in an expiring state. There was little left it but the courage of its people and the aspiration of its leaders. But safety and progress lie in courage and aspiration and with such motive forces the future of the country was assured. Since that time the United States has grown from dwarf to giant. Not only have we expanded in territory and multiplied in population, but in all branches of industry, science, literature and art marvelous progress has been made.

A third of a century passed since the great struggle of the United States for the existence of the Union and then in almost the closing year of the nineteenth century, came another war, not for union or country alone but in the interests of humanity. This war put upon the nation grave responsibilities. Their extent was not anticipated and could not have been foreseen. But rarely in the annals of history can you find an instance where a nation has carried on a war so effectively, with so little confusion and with such overwhelming and complete victory as a result.

How Dewey executed the order, "Find the Spanish fleet and capture or destroy it," is so fixed in the minds of the people throughout the civilized world that it need not be repeated here. At the battle Santiago, another Spanish fleet, larger

and more powerful than the first, was sent to the bottom of the sea. Never has such work been done with so little loss—only one man killed and a few wounded on both American fleets.

But not in war alone is this nation supreme, for it occupies the highest pinnacles in the great industries of man and is the vanguard of the world in science, invention, education, and natural resources. No other civilized nation occupies so large a continuous history as the United States, or is so well fitted for the successful pursuit of so many branches of human industry. Nowhere else in the world is there so vast a number of highly civilized and energetic people living under a single government, speaking the same language, and having the same general customs and standards of life. Because of these advantages industries of all kinds have increased in this country even more rapidly than the population, so that today, the United States, though one of the youngest, is one of the greatest nations in the world. List, if you will, the seven great industries of man—agriculture, herding, fishing, lumbering, mining, manufacturing and commerce, and considering each in detail, you find that America leads the world not only in the total production of all these industries, but in the production of each of them, considered singly.

To show our supremacy in agriculture, it is only necessary to mention that we produce four-fifths of the cotton of the world, one-fourth of the wheat, four-fifths of the corn and one-half of the tobacco.

Our herds supply one-half of the world's pork and one-fourth of the beef.

Although all nations have access to the ocean, the fisheries of the United

States are more extensive than those of any one country. We supply one-fifth of the fish of the world.

Fully one-third of the timber cut in the world comes from the forests of the United States.

The mines of the United States are among its most valuable resources and yield one-third of the mineral product of the world. By far the most valuable of the mineral productions are coal, of which we supply one-third of the world's market, and iron, of which we supply one-fourth.

Not only is the United States the greatest manufacturing country, but in the extent and variety of manufactures it surpasses any two other countries in the world.

Not the least among our industries is our commerce. The ocean commerce of the United States has nearly doubled within thirty years and now amounts to two billion dollars' worth of goods annually, two-thirds of which are articles of export. But even this great sum is far from indicating the actual commerce of this country. The movement of goods by aid of river, canal and railroad from part to part of the vast area of the United States is too extensive even to be estimated. It will suffice to say that the railroad freight traffic of the United States equals that of all the world besides.

Notwithstanding these facts, the commerce of the United States is still in its infancy. With the recent acquisition of the Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico and the Philippines, the development of Alaska, the increasing demand of the world for our products, the extent of American shipbuilding, even the prophecy as to our future, which to many must seem an enthusiast's dream, too wild for realization, is bound to be shown too conservative and will prove a shadow pitifully inadequate as the herald of coming splendid events.

To show our supremacy in science, it is only necessary to mention the names of such illustrious men as Dana, New-

comb, Gray and Cope and to remind ourselves of the fact that the United States expends more money and employs more officers for the promotion of science than any other nation.

In no direction has the United States been more prolific than in that of invention and its fame in the future is likely to be largely based on its immense achievements in this field of human activity. In textile productions, in metal working, in the making of furniture, clothing and other articles of ordinary use, in heating and illuminating, in travel and transportation of goods, farm operations, engineering, mining and excavation and the production of the tools of peace and the weapons of war, in ways indeed too numerous to mention, the inventive activity and industrial energy of the United States have added enormously to the variety and abundance of useful objects at man's disposal, increased his wealth to an extraordinary extent, enabled him to move over land and sea with marvelous ease and speed and to send information around the world with a rapidity that almost annihilates time and space. An interesting fact is that up to the end of the year nineteen hundred, there had been sixty-five thousand more patents issued in the United States than in Great Britain and France together.

So much for our material supremacy. It is a grand prelude to a spiritual symphony, of which the nineteenth century has struck the first mighty notes. In speaking of our intellectual and spiritual achievements, there is nothing to which we can point with more pride than to our splendid school system. The principal business of the United States may be said to be that of education. There are about eighteen million pupils, one-fourth of our present population in the schools of the United—as many as Germany, Italy and France combined, and three times the school enrollment in Great Britain and Ireland and five times that of Russia, with its population of one hundred millions. The school house

forms the mile post on the highway of progress. Free schools are everywhere in evidence in the United States and extend upward to a plane, which links the common school with the college and forms the direct stepping stone to university education. The state universities of this country, which offer higher education at state expense have placed within reach of poor as well as rich the completest possible educational advantages and are rapidly becoming world centers of learning and investigation. It used to be considered necessary for a man, fitting himself for the work of a specialist in a profession, to study abroad for a few years and a degree from one of the old universities of Europe was at once accepted as implying that the holder had enjoyed advantages superior to any offered at home. Such is no longer the case. The time is not far distant when students from all parts of the world will seek America as the world's educational Mecca. The vast endowment funds of the great universities are enabling them to engage the services of the most renowned scholars and specialists at home and abroad. In this way men of world reputation in their special lines are found in this country, and at no very distant date perhaps, the best German scholarship must be sought in America, just as now it is said the best music of German artists is not to be heard across the waters, but in New York.

The widespread education of the people of America has created an extraordinary demand for books. This demand has given rise to an extraordinary supply, which is not offered in books alone, but in periodicals of every character and scope. American journalism today leads the world. It takes American push, energy, invention, in short, Yankee many-sidedness of mental equipment to run a twentieth century daily newspaper. As for our magazines, they are so much in advance of the European in point of illustration, contents and in every other way that they have created a great mar-

ket for themselves everywhere in the old world and almost render the life of indigenous periodical literature precarious.

One of the most hopeful signs of the times, is the fact that there is not a large city in the United States without its free circulating library and many smaller cities are similarly provided. What that fact alone means to the future of America cannot be stated in language. If the influence of a single book is incalculable, what must be that of a whole library and a large number of libraries, such as the American cities possess?

"But what of American art and literature," sneers the critic in whose vocabulary the word American is a synonym for the material and perhaps the vulgar and crude? Heretofore it has been the general impression abroad that American art is of an inferior character and unworthy of serious consideration. A noted writer and artist in a recent journal, maintains that the American exhibit at the Paris Exposition has changed this feeling of indifference to one of genuine admiration. It was admitted on all sides that American art was superior to that of most foreign countries. The French judges gave tangible expression to this estimate when they awarded us more medals than any other country. The words of a great master, one of the most accomplished of Europeans in art matter must be quoted in this connection: "Art was born in the old cities of Italy. Its wings grew strong and in search of a more vital atmosphere, it soared northward and alighted in Paris, in Munich, in Vienna. Its next flight will be across the sea to America. Your people have the nervous sensitiveness and the fresh vitality which make the artistic temperament. You are co-mingling of old world blood, but revived. When we are worn out, when we have arrived at racial old age, the American race, having perfected the development of its own individuality, will be in full vigor of life, with all that we have done as lessons and examples,

the basis of the noblest art structure the world has yet known."

In conclusion a word should be said on the subject of American literature. Considering the fact that today the honor roll of our literary history is already made up of such a long list of world-honored names, we can hardly believe that our nation is no more than a single century old. Besides Tennyson's bust in Westminster Abbey stands that of the most beloved singer of the west—Longfellow. There are Walt Whitman societies in Russia and a prominent English critic maintains that French literature of the last forty years is largely the creation of Edgar Allen Poe. In England and on the continent today the popular edition of Cooper, Hawthorn, Irving, etc., are constantly multiplying, showing an ever increasing number of readers across the waters, finding pleasure and instruction in American masterpieces.

Noting all these facts we see at the

close of this, the most remarkable century since the flight of time began, that Americans are the best housed, the best fed, the best clothed, the best educated, the most profitably employed and the happiest, because the most hopeful of any people, at any time or under any sky. In the purely intellectual and spiritual, our first century of national existence is a sunrise which betokens a day of unparalleled splendor and brilliancy. Entering upon the twentieth century in the world's history can we not with greater hopefulness than ever before, echo that prophecy of future American greatness, which was uttered more than a century and a half ago—a prophecy, which in a large measure, has already been fulfilled:

"Westward the course of empire takes
its way.

The first four acts already passed,
A fifth shall close the drama of the day—
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

T. W. Osgood.

THE COLLEGE GIRL.

When we read of a college girl, we usually associate her in our mind with Wellesly, Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Mt. Holyoke or other institution of high standing. Although each of these colleges shows striking pictures of the usefulness as well as gaieties of a college girl's life, they are, however, not the only places where the college girl exists. Here in the "Great West" are hundreds of co-educational institutions, where the college girl may be found. Within the walls of these institutions, hundreds of young women are engaged in the cultivation of their minds. They are pursuing college courses and taking degrees, and have as much right to the title of college girls as those of Wellesly or Vassar.

All colleges have the same object in view, the co-educational as well as the one which is exclusively for women. The attainment of that purpose is sought by

every member of the institution. The highest desire of the college girl is to prepare herself for useful, noble, and true womanhood. College girls are young women who are duly preparing themselves for their life work. Whatever that life work may be, it needs due preparation. Woman's work has its province mainly in the home. Therefore, there is such a vital connection between the American college girl and the American home, as to render the life of the college girl a matter of interest, worthy of serious consideration.

A girl should have a good preparation for her college course. If she has not, she never will gain the intended object of college training. She should enter college with a strong body and mind, with lofty ambition and a definite aim. The college girl should, upon starting her course, endeavor to improve all her faculties and keep a high ideal before

her. She must bear in mind that she is spending only four short years in preparation for a long life. Consequently she must enter on her career in college with seriousness or it will be a failure. The college girl needs mental, moral, physical and social training. First, we will consider the mental training. There is a course of study arranged for the student. This must be followed carefully and faithfully. The college girl in accordance with her course has hours of study and these are for study and nothing else. Study is followed by recitation hours, at which times there must be promptness and attentiveness to the instruction.

The moral side of a college girl's life is more personal than the mental. The first object of a college girl's education is to be a model girl. A girl has no place in college if she is not a lady in every sense of the word. If girls were sent to college for pure study and nothing else, college life indeed would be very monotonous.

As this is not the case social culture holds a very important place in our colleges. Whether the students be in a girl's boarding school, in a university, in an agricultural college or in a convent, they are expected to be ladies and gentlemen. Ideal college students are looking forward to true womanhood, and true manhood. As the college girl is here the topic, we will consider her.

First she bears in mind her actions in all places. A college girl is not granted any privileges that are denied in good society. It was thought for many years that the social training of a co-educational institution is poor. This is not true. It has been shown that we have model college girls in institutions where young men and young women are educated on equal footing. This social training depends on the students themselves. They are aware of it and our college girls are high types of American women. For the aim of every college, girl is to add more honor and virtue to American character.

The ideal college girl does not forget the care of the physical part of her nature. The modern college girl is an athlete. Basket-ball, tennis, etc., are now girlish sports in college life. We read of the up-to-date college girl rivaling her brothers in athletic sports, as well as in oratory, declamation or debate. Then come due recreation, regularity of study and meals, as well as proper care of surroundings and person.

Patriotism, the foundation of college spirit, should be one of the characteristics of the college girl. Loyalty to class, to club and to Alma Mater should be among her many virtues.

College life, is, after all, what we make it. It is not always bright and cheery; all college girls are not happy. Nowhere in the world is sympathy oftener needed than in college. Student life should not be self-centered, unsympathetic and selfish. A cheerful word, sometimes a smile, will help to soothe a troubled heart. Older college girls can be helpful to their younger sisters. Often a newcomer needs a word of encouragement. A sensible college girl never fails to give it.

In college we must learn to overcome difficulties. We need to be brave to face life's battles. College life teaches us how to meet these difficulties well prepared.

We always receive what we come to the college for, if we only try. It always lies in our own power to make a success or failure of college life. The girl who has made a success of her college life leaves the institution with a strong body, a strong mind and a good character. She enters the work of her life to add another page to the history of true womanhood. She is the one who reaps reward and happiness from the field of college life.

ANNA STAPLETON, '03.

The horticultural department is taking active measures to prevent the eating off the foliage of trees by insects.

A STOCK JUDGING TOUR.

The stock judging class of the Agricultural College left Fargo on Thursday, March 21, to visit some of the large stock farms of Minnesota.

The first day after our arrival in St. Paul was spent in visiting the famous Jas. J. Hill farm, which lies eleven miles northeast of that city. Superintendent McKissick gave us a cordial welcome, and first showed us his Scotch collies, which greeted us in a clear tenor voice. Seven breeds of poultry were next shown. At this stage of the visit one of our number withdrew in search of the hogs, saying that he had no use for feathered creatures. Later we found him inspecting a bunch of seven hundred fifty Berkshire swine.

After viewing the hogs we were given a welcome surprise. Mr. McKissick beckoned to where a sleigh was waiting to convey us over an expanse of frozen lake to view Mr. Hill's herd of elk. When about half way across the lake we beheld twenty-three of the antlered species sunning themselves on the southern slope of a wooded knoll. They showed no uneasiness as we approached them, thus indicating that the wildest of wild animals can be tamed.

Our guide next directed his course eastward across the lake and as we climbed the bank twenty or more buffaloes scampered toward their hiding places in the woods and the class would have met with a sad disappointment had not the shaggy beasts expected food and returned within a few rods of us. The large bulls stood in the foreground like sentinels guarding their herd.

Someone has said that a buffalo cannot be driven, and in proof of the statement Mr. McKissick related the following experience. He attempted to drive the herd into a corral. When quite near them he noticed that they had their glaring eyeballs focused on him. He pressed boldly forward meanwhile eyeing a friendly tree which stood close by. To see whether they really meant busi-

ness, he picked up a stick to throw at them and at the same instant they tossed up their tails and charged on him, chasing him up into the branchy fortress. There they kept him a closely guarded prisoner for eight hours.

As time was quickly passing we had to do some hurried work to see Mr. Hill's three hundred Ayrshire milch cows and young stock, his elaborately equipped creamery, his two hundred Shropshire sheep and his handsome string of light horses.

Overlooking the largest of the four beautiful lakes which receive the drainage from the uplands of the farm stands Mr. Hill's summer residence and conservatory. The latter is said to be the largest and best equipped floral palace in the state.

Upon taking leave of Superintendent McKissick, the class gave the college yell and returned to the Twin Cities for the night, tired but happy.

The following morning found our party at St. Anthony Park. After taking a hurried look at the flowers and plants in the extensive greenhouses, Professor Taylor escorted us to the stock department, where the class was given an object lesson in scoring, which was amply worth the expense of the trip. The animals studied had been selected for the national fat-stock show to be held in Chicago next fall, and are now being fitted for competition in the beef classes. Professor Haecker showed us some almost ideal cows, which have wonderful records, and told us how they have been fed and handled to obtain the best results. Professor Boss showed the class how a dressed beef is cut up by the butcher and why a fat animal of good type yields better steaks and roasts than one of inferior type and half fatted. Sheep were next considered and Professor Taylor gave us another demonstration which will prove a lasting benefit to the class. The swine were quar-

antined and we were not permitted to see them.

Our next point of observation was at Mr. H. F. Brown's barn where we found a magnificent herd of shorthorn cattle.

The class was first shown a ring of six handsome yearling shorthorn bulls which were very uniform. Mr. Brown said: "I want you young fellows to judge those six calves and place first, second and third." In fifteen minutes the class handed in their written individual decisions and reasons, Mr. Brown and Professor Boss acted as superior judges and Professor Shepperd smiled in evidence of his satisfaction upon finding that nearly every student in his class had placed placed them right. After placing two more difficult rings of shorthorn cattle Mr. Brown treated us to lemonade and we had ended another busy and instructive day.

Monday morning found us in carriages driving through a snow storm and mud to the N. P. Clarke farm, which lies ten miles north of St. Cloud. Mr. Bonnell, who has immediate supervision of the stock, showed us shorthorn cattle and Clydesdale horses of a high grade and of good breeding. Mr. Bonnell asked us to place first, second and third in a ring of four two-year-old

Clydesdale stallions, which had taken first, second and third prizes at Chicago last October. The boys were not caught napping and within ten minutes had placed the colts in the order desired and did the work in a way that brought congratulations from the judges. Mr. Clarke has a herd of shorthorn cattle and a stud of Clydesdale horses which are hard to excel in size and quality.

The following forenoon was taken up by a visit to the stock farm of Mr. Jno. Cooper, in the suburbs of St. Cloud. Mr. Cooper does not believe in keeping his shorthorns in showing condition, thus giving us an opportunity to see the ideal shorthorn frame without much surplus flesh upon it.

At 11:10 we boarded the Great Northern flyer bound for Fargo, where we arrived in due time. The boys are well satisfied with the trip. A stock judging tour should be made an annual occurrence, and by way of encouragement, the Minnesota men say that they have a better showing ready for the A. C. students next year. If they do it will be by reason of a greater variety, as better stock than was shown this year's class is not common in any country.

M. H. F.

The hopper dozer may soon become arelic, while the unsophisticated game warden bids fair to displace the entomologist. The Rocky Mountain locust or grass-hopper has caused untold damage in Colorado, as well as in Kansas, Nebraska and other surrounding states.

Tom Johnson, an unscientific game warden, has finally solved the problem of exterminating the pests. It has been against the law for many years in that state to in any way lessen the number of quail, hence, they have been found to be of some value to the farmer more than mere yelping weather prophets. Mr. Johnson noticed that the quail consumed hoppers

with a relish and that in districts where these birds were numerous the insects caused no trouble. This fact brought to his mind a thought, the fruits of which may prove of inestimable value to the grain growers of that region. He now has a gang of expert trappers at work placing quail in hopper infected districts, thus ridding the locality of the destructive insects by converting them into one of the great delicacies known to the epicurean.

While Colorado is the only state that encourages the production of quail to such an extent she has no patent on the plan, and would it not be well for other states to adopt her system and thus insure against the hopper scourge?

ATHLETICS.

The basket-ball season closed somewhat abruptly. We regret very much that the management of the league was situated so as not to allow an arrangement whereby the tie existing between Fargo College and the A. C. could be played off. However, with the exception of a slight friction in the management, the league has otherwise been very successful. It has placed before the public of Fargo a high class of pure amateur athletics. The bringing of the U. of Minnesota's basket-ball team up here and the exhibiting of the highest development of amateur basket-ball is an act reflecting credit upon the management of the league. The scores which resulted from Minnesota's visit here, clearly show that the teams comprising the league are not greatly outclassed by their eastern friends and that it is simply a matter of skilful coaching and more rigid training ere our teams will be their peer.

One thing our institution stands supreme in, and that is an undefeated ladies' basket-ball team. It has successfully met on the field of athletic honor every form and shape of feminine aspirants for athletic laurels and to them all has it left naught but defeat. Their final game with the Moorhead Normal was a crushing defeat for the Pedagogues, for they were outclassed in every feature of the game, especially so in the skill of manipulating the ball. The game, instead of consisting of two halves of 20 minutes each was played in quarters. The final score was 20 to 1. Miss Thomas of the home team played the finest offensive game at forward ever seen here. She used wonderful tact and skill in passing the ball and shooting baskets. Miss Parizek at guard can't be beat. Miss Larson at center played a wonderfully strong offensive game. Miss Smyth at guard was given the liberty of playing in the forward's territory at every opportunity, which privilege she used to good advantage, by

throwing three field baskets. Miss Kate Ward at forward was up with the rest in getting her share of baskets. The substitutes were the Misses Norton, Agner and Starckenberg. Much credit must be given Miss Aldyth Ward for her efficient management of the team. The ladies received a challenge from the ladies of the St. Paul Central High School, but owing to the lateness of the season, necessary arrangements could not be completed.

The baseball season has now opened and the boys are practicing hard with a desire to hold the high standard which our athletics have reached in all lines. The material this season is better than ever before. Among our new support may be mentioned Messrs. Croonquist, Houghtling, Slette and Sullivan, each of whom has done considerable work heretofore in amateur baseball. The management is supplying the team with a brand new outfit in uniforms, which we hope to initiate by defeating Fergus Falls early in the season. The schedule is not fully completed as yet, but among the list of games, will be two with each of the following teams, viz.: Fergus Falls, U. of N. D., Cooperstown, Wheatland, Valley City. It is not improbable that we may succeed in getting the U. of Minn. here after their game with the U. of N. D.

Shall the institutions have an inter-collegiate track and field day meet this year? Field day exercises have been a feature greatly enhancing the college spirit and materially contributing to the development of athletics. Why not follow the precepts of other colleges? There is no reason why we cannot have a meet this season.

Some of the members of the senior class have been thinking seriously of going to the Philippines in the capacity of teachers, but it is extremely doubtful whether any will decide to go.

EXCHANGES.

The latest fad is a collection of photos of young men, entitled a "Him Book."

Two students at Harvard were seriously injured while being initiated by one of the fraternities.

Michigan "U" has won more glory by defeating Chicago "U" in a debate on the ship subsidy question.

President John P. Ashley of Albion College has resigned. His resignation will be acted upon on April 24.

Of the four hundred fifty-six students at Worcester last year fifteen were from India and eleven from China.—*Ex.*

The Baylor Literary is a very neat and interesting paper, containing good short stories as well as articles along scientific lines.

Some students at Ann Arbor and a sheriff's force had a "recent unpleasantness." Two of the students have been suspended.

A student, while working with culture tubes in the bacteriological laboratory, at Ann Arbor, became infected with bubonic plague.

A jockey's horse has feet of speed.

Maud S. had feet of fame.

A student's horse has none at all;

But gets there just the same.—*Ex.*

Dartmouth College is trying to raise \$1,000,000 for a fitting commemoration of the graduation of Daniel Webster one hundred years ago.

The Delaware College has been requested to support the intercollegiate games to be held at Buffalo during the Pan-American Exposition.

Out of about four thousand Harvard students only sixty-three are privileged to wear the "H". Of these, sixteen are for football; fifteen, crew; twelve, baseball, and twenty for track athletics.

President Hadley says the formation of an educational trust is imminent. He said this in a lecture at Leland Stanford, Jr., University. After the dismissal of Dr. Ross by Mrs. Stanford we are in-

clined to believe that the trust is already in operation.

Fortunes make men wise; poets, witty; the mathematics subtle; natural philosophy, deep, moral, grave; logic and rhetoric, able to contend.—*Bacon.*

In Germany—The Count: "Dear me, Baron, your face! Duelling again at your age, and so recently married?"

The Count: Ach, no! It's my American wife. She makes me eat with a fork.

Carleton College wins both first and second place in the intercollegiate oratorical contest for Minnesota. For three consecutive years she has won first place. We'll wager her students don't put their orations off until the third term senior.

The seniors at Georgetown had a very unpleasant interview with the president of the institution, as recorded in the *Campus Echoes* of the last *Georgetownian*, which, by the way, is a thoroughly readable paper. The story entitled "Lucy", by Mr. Dennis, is particularly good.

Did you see the chimney sweep? One of the funniest things for some time was the man climbing around over the college buildings to clean the ventilating shafts so that they would not burn out. Evidently he did not realize that these buildings are all steam heated and that the chimneys have not been used since the central heating plant was installed. There must have been some mistake when his orders were issued.

To the letters of inquiry sent to all of the graduates in January, replies have been received from all but one and it was unanimously decided to organize an alumni association this spring and hold our first annual banquet at some time during graduating week in June. A committee has already been selected to arrange for a program.

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TERMS.

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If enthusiastic support of good players can evolve a successful baseball team, then we ought to have one this season. We already have the players; let us develop the enthusiasm.

Some of the departments have been slightly crippled during the past month, owing to sickness of members of the faculty, but it is expected that all will soon be able to resume work.

We may be mistaken in thinking, and wrong in saying, that there should be a more systematic way of arranging the

newspapers in the college reading room. It seems rather strange that an indiscriminate pile should be made of newspapers daily received, so that students have to laboriously sort out those which interest them most. Some sort of arrangement by which papers could be made more easily accessible would certainly be appreciated.

"The Average Young Man and His Library" is the title of an excellent article appearing in the April issue of the *Cosmopolitan*. The article in question, which is from the pen of James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University, contains some excellent advice on the purchase and use of books. While it may be safely laid down as a rule that no man can choose what a second man shall read, and give satisfaction to the second, we believe that a careful perusal of the article in question will be amply repaid by the information gained, even if the reader declines to follow the suggestions offered.

President Hadley, of Yale, in a recent lecture is reported as saying that an educational trust will be among the early developments of the twentieth century. If such trust be formed it will doubtless endeavor to reduce the waste of educational force to a minimum, as we are informed the steel combine is to do with the waste of productive labor. What a happy time it will be for some students, who abhor study, when the number of studies is reduced to a minimum; but on the other hand, if the trust should decide to reduce the number of worthless students to a minimum, then what will be the fate of the chronic flunker?

As some students are rather forgetful, especially in the matter of returning borrowed books, it may be in order for us to remark that when books are lent they are not generally supposed to be retained by the borrower. Most students value their text-books as the nucleus of a library, and keep them

in excellent condition for future reference. It is rather annoying gratuitously to loan a well-preserved book, and at the end of the term to be forced to request its return—or what is little better, to be presented with a something scarcely recognizable, which it would be slander to call a book. Book-borrowers, take notice!

When an educational institution is convulsed by internal dissension, and especially when that dissension is forcibly thrust on the attention of other institutions, we should not glibly condemn, but rather endeavor to promote a peaceful settlement, so that harmony may again hold supreme control. Thus, while we sympathize with that college which, owing to internal dissension, failed to send representatives to the state oratorical contest, we must not presume to criticise. Of course the non-appearance of its representatives prevented any such complication as honorable defeat, but while this might possibly have been assumed as a cause for the withdrawal of the representatives of any other college, it must not for a moment be entertained while looking for a reason in the present instance. The only plausible reason seems to be that given by the would-be representatives of the institution, viz., that the college would not provide an acceptable—chaperon.

Students in general of this institution seem to have a rather hazy idea that the entire responsibility of issuing THE SPECTRUM devolves upon the business manager and the editor-in-chief. Notwithstanding numerous public and private appeals, not a single voluntary contribution has been received, and it is only with the greatest difficulty that anyone can be prevailed upon to furnish anything whatever. Although several of our young hopefuls fairly beam with satisfaction when there is an opportunity for them to display themselves as the leading lights of the college, if our mem-

ory be true not one of them ever furnishes a single paragraph for publication. The only interest they seem to take in the paper seems to be the regular monthly abuse of the staff, should the paper happen to be a day late in being issued. Verily, some people are gifted with gigantic intellects

Physiologists assure us that to those having the requisite amount of stamina, a cold plunge is of great benefit to the human body. It affords a nervous reaction which gives the participant a feeling of vigor with no deleterious after effects. Now there is a cold plunge which may be taken, quite different in kind from the above but which gives effects no less beneficial and exhilarating. It is not difficult at all for the ordinary mortal to stay still and vegetate in an intellectual way. In fact, it seems to be the natural thing to do with the great majority. But there are a certain few of this age whose watchword is progress. Through them the world moves.

This cold plunge that was referred to is the change from preconceived notions and opinions to modern and radical ones. In religion or in politics we hold antiquated ideas which we know to be wrong but which we love beyond all reason, due, generally to tradition or association. We fear that if we drop them and take up the new we shall lose the thing dearest to us and obtain nothing in return. This is especially so if we pass from the concrete and simple to the abstract and more complex.

On the contrary, however, we will experience an exhilaration of our intellectual faculties quite undreamed of before. And our spiritual nature will certainly receive no injury. Looking back over the past, constant changes have been made from lower conditions and until this day nothing has been lost and everything has been gained. Have we anything to fear in future changes?

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Perry is about to start a watermelon patch.

Mr. Pullin is improving rapidly since his return home.

Prep. in botany: Potato eyes represent the leaf scars.

The Misses Smith and Redmond visited college April 1.

Orations are coming thick and fast these last few days.

"You must be vigorous, or you will soon go under."

Why do the seniors object to having girls in their classes?

Miss Ward visited with Miss Larson at Argusville on Easter.

Bob Olsen accompanied our orators to Grand Forks last week.

Attendance at chapel exercises is now required by all students.

Professor Ladd made a flying trip to Wisconsin a short time ago.

L. R. Waldron had a slight attack of the measles a short time ago.

We are glad to know that Professor Bolley is rapidly convalescing.

Fowler: First commandment? Why that is "Thou shalt not steal."

The building of the new barns will be commenced in a short time.

Professor Waldron says he has some popcorn that popped in the field last summer.

Miss Anna Stapleton wishes to be called Pocahontas by Capt. H. B. Schmidt.

All the class-day programs are well under way. We are not quite sure which way it is.

"Success in Death" was President Worst's subject in an address given at

the Plymouth Congregational Church on Easter Sunday evening.

President McFarland of the Valley City Normal was a college visitor on April 8.

Professor, to spectacled senior: You disgust me every time you open your mouth.

Ask Corbett about the evening he went to the entertainment at the Catholic church.

For some unknown reason Miss Leininger is wearing a gloomy expression nowadays.

Some of the veteran students were greatly surprised to find their names on the drill list.

A brilliant senior recently discovered that fibro-vascular bundles are found in the muscles.

The class in surveying is busily engaged in taking extended observations of the campus.

Regarding commencement programs the class committees must consult Professor Waldron.

Ask Thompson or Tom Jensen about that time they surprised each other in a certain hallway.

New uniforms have been ordered for the baseball team. They are expected to arrive in a few days.

The new members of the college board are Messrs. S. S. Lyon, B. N. Stone, and Maynard Crane.

Senior: Oh, yes, he's the fellow who swam across the Hellespont, from Athens to Constantinople.

Miss Mabel Spencer, who has been studying music in Boston, is expected to be in Fargo about June 1.

In a recent examination a member of a class in physiology stated, in reply to a question, that the brain in man

weighed fifty pounds, and in woman forty-five. Another conclusive evidence of man's superiority!

Miss Kate Ward has recently gone home, and will not return to college until next fall.

Dr. Mallarian requires twenty minute papers from the members of his class in ethics once per week.

Tom Manns had a short siege of sickness just at the right time to escape the winter term exams.

Spring fever is rampant, but it did not strike anyone poetically. Hence the lack of verse in this issue.

The girls who served the board dinner don't know it all, but they do know where that ice cream went to.

Miss Ethel Bowers, and Miss Donaldson, from the Fargo High School, visited the college a short time ago.

Thompson and Stewart took a lesson in sewing last week. It is understood that they will continue the study.

The two companies of "barnyard cadets" have been consolidated, and will drill as one during the spring term.

Professor Hult delivered a lecture at Grand Forks on the evening of April 13. The subject was "Imagination."

L. B. Greene orated on Wendell Phillips a short time ago. His eloquence was only exceeded by his mastery of the subject.

Miss Ward's basket-ball team and Chaperone Manns were somewhat disappointed in not getting that trip to St. Paul.

Queer, wasn't it, that Mr. Pickard went home from church alone one Sunday night—Too bad 'twas "too far to walk."

H. McGuigan left for Washington at the end of last month, to commence work in the department of agriculture, where he is now occupying a responsible posi-

tion. Recent letters state that he enjoys the work and finds the surroundings very congenial.

A committee has been appointed by the senior class to make arrangements for a dinner to be given in the near future.

Miss Howlett, Professor Ladd's stenographer, has charge of the class in shorthand during the illness of Professor Mills.

It's about time for Ed Stewart to get his bicycle lamp in working order. He had some experience in riding without one last year.

Commencement exercises will probably be held down town this year. Hon. J. B. Cotton of Duluth will deliver the annual address.

Miss Senn, called to the 'phone on April 1. ||Hello! Hello! Hello! What is the matter with this 'phone anyway? Hello! Hello! etc.

It is reported that one of our young lady students is going to take lessons in harp playing, so that in case of death she'll be prepared.

The girls' basket-ball team received a challenge from a St. Paul team, but satisfactory arrangements for a game could not be made.

Absence from classes must be satisfactorily explained after this. The faculty are evidently getting in trim for the Fargo Fire Festival.

It is believed that with the number ●† orations to be delivered before commencement it will soon be necessary to have at least two per day.

A Fargo College professor, when asked if he could work an example in calculus, replied: Calculus? Why, we never get so far as that over here.

Twelve members of the class in stock scoring visited several places of interest in Minnesota, under the direction of Professor Shepperd. Among other

points they visited the Minnesota Agricultural College, the St. Paul stockyards and J. J. Hill's stock farm.

The girls in the domestic science department entertained the board of trustees at dinner on the occasion of the first meeting of the new members.

Have you seen Green struggling up against a stiff breeze, carrying a lunch basket? He says the "consent of the governed" don't work in this case.

Miss Ward, to one of our prominent juniors: Do you know why Professor Keene marked me down so low in physics—because I was not full enough.

The Junior: Well, you ought to have been along with us last night.

The business manager's best girl visited Fargo (and the business manager) a short time ago. Now he's bewailing the fact that she can't be here all the time.

During Professor Bolley's illness, his assistant, Mr. Lawrence Waldron, had charge of the department of biology, fulfilling the duties of the position very creditably.

Ask Miss Aldyth Ward about that bill she received from a dry goods house in the city, for material furnished to the girls basket-ball team(?), of which she was manager.

The oratorical contest at the university of Wisconsin was won by a young lady. This reminds us that girls at our college don't appear to take much interest in oratory.

The inhabitants of the farmhouse were somewhat annoyed by being compelled to seek temporary boarding places in town, owing to the development of a case of scarlet fever.

Col. Philip Reade, U. S. inspector-general for the Department of the Dakotas, was at the college recently, looking over the military department. He reports everything in good shape.

Several of the students gave Miss Fritz and Sleight a lively send-off on

the train the other evening, showering them with rice, etc. Someone was heard to remark, "How sad it is not real."

"Shorty" Gorham is going to raise an all-independent baseball team to oppose the regular players. He says that each member of the team will be independent of all the other players; hence the title.

T—n has discovered a new method of testing bread as to edibility. The plan is to throw a piece to a number of chickens, and see whether they eat it. If they refuse it, the bread is immediately condemned.

Fred Sleight left school at the end of the winter term. His departure seemed to be generally regretted, if the demonstration at the depot is taken as a criterion. He will work in an Enderlin drug store during the summer.

Fallis says he did not see "the elephant" when he went on that stock-judging trip, as he did not know where to look for it. He informs us, though, that he saw a herd of buffaloes on Jim Hill's farm at St. Paul.

Swem, the photographer, had a valuable camera almost ruined when he turned it on the girls' basket-ball team one forenoon. When the male members of the first team put in an appearance on the afternoon of the same day the havoc was completed.

Captain Manns, "the huskiest farmer of the bunch", is riding a new Crescent.

The ladies basket-ball team sent Manns a polite note of thanks for his kindness in coaching them during a very eventful season. The girls did not lose a game during the season.

To a correspondent: Yes, Clarence, you look beautiful with your hair parted in the center, and combed down over the eyes. You should, however, affect a dreamy look and, if possible, carry a cane with a curved handle, so that you can chew on it to increase the artistic effect.

Only eight weeks before commencement. The class programs will need

immediate attention. Don't put off the work any longer. Have everything in readiness before June 5, for the Fire Festival will interfere with work during the last few days of the term.

Miss Senn has promised to give the seniors a dinner in the near future. These seniors are the same that swiped the turkey provided for the senior dinner last year. The coming dinner will afford Miss Senn a chance for retaliation. "An eye for an eye, etc.," would apply well.

President Worst has designed a very artistic circular for the Winter Short Course in Agriculture. The circular will be mailed to interested parties.

The horticultural department has been busy during the past week in putting anti-bug arrangements on the trees, in order to prevent the bugs from crawling up and destroying the leaves. The department has evidently forgotten that bugs can crawl upside down.

Mr. Doty, lately a student(?) here, and champion one-mile runner, put his speed to good account by taking an unexpected start for parts unknown one evening during the latter part of March. Doty was so fast that he was beyond recall ere the bell could be rung. He incidentally neglected to pay a few small bills which he had incurred during his presence here.

Prin. W. L. Morrison, Menomonie, Wis., read before the State Teachers' Association, for Wisconsin, a most excellent paper on Agriculture vs. Botany in the high school. He is a strong advocate for a change in the subject matter that is to be given in the rural schools. He believes more practical knowledge, and less of fairy tales would prove interesting for the classes in reading, and more elementary science in the rural schools would have a tendency to overcome the prejudice now existing toward farm life, and tend to check the great rush from country to our crowded cities. A man like Mr. Morrison should be a

member of the state high school board for North Dakota. Then the A. C. could reasonably expect to receive some aid from said board and not feel that the board had built a railroad straight from rural school to the university without even a place for a side track for the farmers.

The college curriculum has recently been broadened by the addition of two courses, one in chemistry and one in biology. The new courses will be put in operation at the beginning of the fall term, and many students are already shaping their work so as to permit of a change from the old course with the least possible loss of study. The change is significant as showing that our institution is in harmony with the law of progress, and is rapidly expanding to meet the growing demands of an increasing student body. It is also significant as showing that specialization is rapidly becoming the rule in education, as each of the courses added affords opportunity for specializing. The change is gratifying to all friends of the college, who are desirous of having here an educational center comparing favorably with larger eastern centers of learning.

The annual state oratorical contest was held in Grand Forks on the evening of Friday, April 12. Fargo College did not send any representatives, so the contest was between the Red River Valley University, the U. of N. D. and the A. C. Messrs. Osgood and Fred Jensen represented the A. C. being accompanied to the contest by Professor Keene and N. R. Olsen, secretary of the State Oratorical League. The judges' decision gave Mr. Steenberg, of the U. of N. D., first place, and Mr. Jensen, of the A. C. second place. These gentlemen will represent the state in the interstate contest, to be held in Grand Forks in June.

SEE SWEM'S ADD ON FIRST PAGE.

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