1900

The Normal College News, April 3, 1900

Eastern Michigan University

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In studying the history of the Roman people, one is at once struck with the great difference in the character of the Roman of the earlier and later republic. The early Romans were a proud, exclusive, honorable people. At the time of the war with Pyrrhus we find Fabricius replying to an offer of bribery with, "Poverty with an honest name is more to be desired than wealth," and only a little over a century and a half later, Jugurtha, a barbarian king, after bribing her ambassadors again and again, says of Rome, "O venal city—thou wouldst sell thyself if thou couldst find a purchaser," while in the later republic, we find a condition of immorality equalled only by the Oriental nations. How are we to account for this change?

In the early republic, the Romans were a hardy, industrious people who lived on their own farms, cultivated them themselves and thought labor honorable; but this did not long survive the wars and acquisition of territory. The demand for military service took them from their farms, and because of the importation of foreign corn and slaves, those on small farms were unable to earn a living, so the small farms were gradually absorbed by the large land owners who employed slave labor to till them, thus crowding out the small land owners.

During the war with Hannibal, the devastation was so great that the small farmer almost entirely disappeared. The armies intended for foreign service were composed chiefly of veterans who served for many years, so they usually gave up their farms. They became unused to civil life, adopted the habits of soldiers and relied chiefly on plunder. The condition of Italy after the war was favorable for encouraging such inclinations. A great many Italians had joined Hannibal, their towns were given up to plunder for money which they squandered and, when they returned home, helped to increase the crowd at the capital and be fed by the state. So by these wars the rich grew richer and the poor poorer.

The Claudian Law, forbidding senators to engage in commercial speculation also promoted the system of large land owners. There was a class, however, who engaged in commercial business extensively. They controlled money matters in Italy and in the provinces. They did the public farming and built the public buildings by slave labor. Thus by wars, the small land owners were not only compelled to give up their farms but the slaves—one of the results of the wars—were used to do the work by which they might have earned an honest living. By this we see that the slaves gave the rich a great advantage. They could produce grain at a cheaper rate than the small farmer, so he was encouraged to give up farming and swell the mob of the city.

The admission of corn from the provinces free of duty, also proved a cause for retrogression in the farming industry. The farmers were obliged to give up the raising of corn and use the land for grazing. This was clearly a step toward barbarism, for it substituted wild lands for settled and the indolent, roving life of the herdsman for the systematic life of the farmer.

The importation of slaves had other effects also. Before they became so numerous and were found in all trades, labor was considered honorable but in time the freemen did not
like to till the ground, weave, etc., because these were the occupations of slaves, and he feared being classed with them. So they came to feel that only military and political life was honorable; the life of honorable toil was abandoned and there was left a dissolute mob in the cities, and miserable slaves in the country. Then the emancipation of these slaves created hundreds of citizens of low character and foreign birth, so that the citizens of Rome were no longer purely Roman. This was not always the case, however, for they often made good, educated citizens but the mass were the refuse of all nations swept into Italy by conquest.

To every class the provinces offered a field of money-making, and unbounded temptations to those who were sent there to rule. They had practically absolute authority, and that the authority exercised so far from home should be abused, was almost inevitable, especially as it was sanctioned by a large part of the Roman people. When their term of office had expired they were not content to come back and live as simple Roman citizens, but built villas and surrounded by a retinue of slaves, lived like princes, while among the lower class the contact with foreign slaves and freemen, foreign worship and vices, produced love of novelty which no law could check.

The possession of the provinces helped to promote another source of degradation to the Roman people. Largesses of corn had been given since the time of the Gracchi. Many of the provinces produced this in large quantities and it could easily be given when it cost nothing, so the evil increased. By this, idleness was fostered, and its injurious effect can hardly be over-estimated. The plebeians of the city, with the peasants and freed slaves attracted there by the free corn were a political power. They passed the laws and elected the magistrates. It was necessary to get their support and the means employed poisoned the political life of Rome, for those who sought offices in the provinces did not scruple to employ the wealth obtained there to get them, and the voters were encouraged to demand it as the price of their support.

By the conquest of the East, many new things were opened up to the Romans, of which they knew nothing before, and we can see the signs of Oriental influence on every hand. It produced a change in almost every department of Roman life, and every class of Roman society. It placed at the disposal of Rome, not only the great material resources, but the accumulated treasures of Greece and Asia Minor caused a sudden rise in the standard of wealth, and a marked change both in the sources from which it was derived and the manner in which it was distributed. The fear of the great rival, Carthage, being removed, the nobles looked only to their own interests and aggrandizement.

This contest for wealth was not controlled by law, religion or public opinion, or connected with any great industrial or humanitarian enterprise, such as make the same contest in our day rather beneficial than harmful. It was wholly selfish. When once individual interest had overthrown the patriarchal system it did not stop till it had swallowed up all honor, law and religion.

The religion, literature and philosophy also had a great influence upon the Roman character. The Hellenic nation had long ago passed the epoch of faith and had given way to speculation and reflection. There had long been no real religion there. Its place was filled by philosophy. This philosophy, when it began to exert its influence on Rome, had already left the epoch of productive speculation and was in that stage where there was not only no origination of really new systems, but even the power of understanding the more perfect of the older systems had begun to wane, and the philosophy of that day, the Romans had not the judgment either to refuse or go back to the old masters. This "new learning" was a disturbing force. Confronted with new doctrines in politics and religion, new rules of conduct, and these daring speculations of Greek philosophy at a time when new opportunities of wealth and dis-
tinction were opening on all sides, inevitably weakened their hold on the 'ancient usage.' Above all, it created a revolt against strict religious discipline and the old Roman traditions of self-effacement and unquestioning obedience, alike to established customs and authority. The introduction of the worship of Oriental gods and Oriental superstitions made a great impression on all classes.

The literature also had a bad as well as good effect. The more the mass of society became interested in Greek life the more it resorted to the more modern and frivolous productions instead of the classical literature. They used that which set their own intellect to work as little as possible. It was in regard to this that Marcus Cicero, the father of the orator, said that among Romans just as among Lyrian slaves, each was the less worth, the more he understood Greek. The plays, also, produced before the people the corrupt life of the East, and their debasing influence was felt in all classes.

Thus we see how the old Roman virtue, patriotism, and faith in the gods was swept away by the tide of luxury, selfishness and immorality produced by a long series of foreign conquests in which the Roman people had been engaged.

From the emperor down to the humblest toiler, Germany has been organized, educated and trained to the task of becoming an industrial nation in the broadest sense. Commercial geography, credit systems, customs, tastes and languages of all nations are studied. In exporting the German is said to be master. He may be stolid, but he is not stupid. Their agents speak the language of the country to which they are sent.

This advanced state of commercial and technical education places at the command of German merchants large numbers of men well qualified by their knowledge of foreign languages, of products and industrial processes, to act as travelers and yet content with a salary looked upon in this country as totally inadequate for persons of those qualifications.

Of late years no state in Europe has excited the commercial alarm of Great Britain as much as Germany has. Her workmen have become proficient enough to produce as good articles as Great Britain's and the low rate of wages enables them to do it cheaper.

Opening of the Alpine tunnels has also aided German commerce, e.g., in 1880 before the opening of St. Gotthard tunnel the quantity of iron and steel in plates and bars imported into Italy from Great Britain was 60 per cent of the total under that head; that from Germany two per cent. In 1890 the proportion from England was less than 22 per cent; that of Germany more than 52 per cent—more than nine-tenths of it introduced by land.

Formerly the commerce of Germany was hindered and complicated by the customs exacted by the individual states, but a customs union, the Zollverein, was formed under control of the imperial government, by which but one duty is exacted on an article, no matter how many states it passes through. Till 1888 the old Hanse towns of Hamburg and Bremen remained outside of this union, but since that date the same customs duties have been levied at these places as at the other ports of the empire and on the outer frontier of Luxemburg.

Progress made by Germany under this system of high tariff is remarkable. While 50
years ago it had become preeminently an exporter of raw products of soil, it is now one of the principal exporters of industrial products and importers of raw materials. Its manufactures use nearly all the coal produced and with the exception of zinc and lead no metals are exported except in a manufactured state, large quantities of pig iron being even imported to supply its steel works. The iron and steel works of Germany are among the most important in the world.

In respect to whole question of import duties and commercial treaties which play such an important part in German politics, there are besides the multifarious political parties, three well-defined groups. They are respectively: (1) the agrarians, who would abolish most of the concessions granted by the commercial treaties that were negotiated with foreign countries under the administration of Chancellor Caprivi, and, by cutting off importation of meats and cereals, advance local prices of animals and food products and thus render German agriculture more profitable; (2) the industrial group which would lower or abolish entirely the duties and restrictions against foreign meats and breadstuffs, and by making food as cheap as possible, facilitate low cost of production in manufacture; (3) commercial group—merchants, bankers, traders of all kinds, who urge utmost freedom of trade, large international exchanges, busy railroads, canals and inland river routes, increased subsidies to ocean steamship lines and general open policy in all matters of trade.

At present all receipts from customs duties and excise of the Deutsche Zollgebiet are paid into the imperial exchequer and the excess of over 1,43,000,000 marks received in duties and taxes on tobacco is distributed pro rata of population among the states of the empire. Chief sources of revenue are customs duties only on imports and taxes on spirits, beer, sugar from beets, tobacco, etc. Great Britain holds first place and United States third in both import and export trade with Germany.

The announcement that the United States is preparing to open at the Paris Exposition a kitchen for preparation and gratuitous distribution of bread and other forms of food prepared from maize has awakened the apprehension of German agrarians whose chemists have discovered and announced that as regards richness in elements that produce fat, heat and strength, corn surpasses all other cereals. It is feared, therefore, that when the laboring classes of Europe realize this and find that by proper cooking it can also be made wholesome and delicious, the result will be another blow to consumption of wheat and rye in favor of maize, in production of which United States is supreme beyond all chances of competition.

Among the steadily growing imports from the United States to Germany is leather which finds ready sale among shoe and leather goods manufacturers in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The fresh fruit trade was also rapidly growing until the Germans stopped it from fear of San Jose scale, some traces of which they found on some pears.

Centers of German industry are Saxony, Westphalia, Rhenish Prussia and Alsace Lorraine. The linen industry stands highest in Saxony, Silesia, and Rhenish Prussia. It is ahead of the linen industry of France. German silk fabrics are inferior to French silks in design, but equal to them in quality. Prussia and Saxony lead in silk manufacture. Paper manufacture has increased greatly, 1,80,000 tons of paper being produced annually. Glass and pottery are important articles of export. Among the porcelain factories that of Meissen in Saxony is the most famous—produces so-called Dresden China.

Beets are raised in enormous quantities for the manufacture of sugar and their cultivation has almost entirely superseded grain culture in Saxony, Anhalt, Hesse, Darmstadt, and S. Bavaria. The breweries and distilleries are of immense importance, also the chemical works, machine shops and jewelry manu factories.

In all kinds of toys Germany stands unequalled and is a large exporter to all parts of
the world. Nurnburg is noted for manufacture of toys and other things which demand much skill in workmanship but little material and mechanical power.

Breslau is an important center of commerce. For seven centuries it has been the place where the industrial products of the west have been changed for agricultural products of the east. Coal fields in its vicinity also developed it. It has become the place of convergence of all southeastern railways. The wine producing area is limited to chiefly to those parts watered by the Rhine and its tributaries. Both red and white wines are manufactured, but those known to commerce are mostly white. Red varieties are mostly of an inferior quality. All are distinguished by a lack of alcohol—barely 12 per cent and by their durability, lasting half a century or more. Rheingau district is most celebrated for wines, 23,000 acres being used in wine production, the average yield being 160 gallons to the acre.

Some of the chief German exports are: To England, wool, hops, grain, cattle, linen, skin, hides, glassware. To France, iron and steel wares, zinc, coal, lumber, hops, hemp, flax, alcohol, cattle. To America, wine cotton, woolen, linen and silk goods, hardware, glassware, china and toys. To Italy, Spain and Portugal, linen and cotton goods, ribbons, hosiery. To Switzerland, grain salt, brandy. To Holland, woolen and cotton fabrics, hosiery, hardware, china and glassware.

Germany is supplied with excellent roads. Saxony is said to be the paradise of cyclists, also a perfect network of railways. The great majority of German railways are now owned by imperial or state governments. Out of 29,461 miles of railroads, only 2,502 belong to private companies.

The mountains of Germany are mainly on the frontier and for the most part consist of comparatively short ranges with breaks which have admitted of railroads being built through them with economical advantage. Of the four great railway routes which cross the Alps beyond the frontiers of Germany, two are of highest importance to German commerce. The route through St. Gothard is most important for Germany leading as it does from most populous parts of Germany into most populous parts of Switzerland and Italy. Next in importance is the route through Brenner Pass.

There is also another important route in the eastern part from Trieste by way of Semmering Pass, Vienna, etc. to southeast Germany.

Natural and artificial waterways are also of great importance. The Rhine, Elbe, Oder, Vistula, are all navigable to German frontier or beyond it; the Fulda and Werra, the two headwaters of the Weser to about latitude 51° and the Danube from Uen.

The navigation of the Rhine is connected by canal with that of the Rhone and Seine basins and the canal to the Seine basin has a branch to the middle of the Moselle. In spite of the competition of railways the navigation on the Rhine and Elbe is of great importance. The eastern rivers are of great importance in floating timber—800,000 feet being floated annually on the Vistula.

A ship canal following the course of the Eider from Tonning and terminating in Kiel Bay already crosses the province of Schlesing, but is not large enough to admit vessels drawing more than 12 feet—hence the scheme for connecting the Baltic with the mouth of Elbe below Hamburg with a ship canal without locks, having a depth of 28 feet. This would save a distance of three days for sailing vessels and 22 hours for commercial steamers. Facilities for inland navigation are of greatest importance in handling heavy ores. The valleys of the Oder and Elbe are connected by the canal called Frederick Wilhelmsgruben and River Spree. The Kaiser Wilhelm canal connecting North Sea and Baltic was opened in June 1895. Breadth 213 feet; depth 29½ feet.

For dispatch and reception of exports and imports Germany is largely dependent upon the ports of Belgium, Holland, France, Italy and Austria. Few German ports have depth of water sufficient for vessels of largest size. The outports of Hamburg and Bremen are the only two with a depth of more than 25 feet.
Hamburg (with Cuxhaven, its port) is by far the most important seaport of Germany. It has risen to its position in comparatively recent time. Its chief impetus was received when the North American war of independence opened to it various colonial ports. One authority states that it is the third port of Europe in importance, only London and Liverpool ranking ahead of it.

LIBRARY.

RECENT ACCESSIONS.

Beers, Henry A. ....... English romanticism in the 18th century.

Elton, Oliver, ......... Augustan ages

Gosse, Edmund, ... Modern English literature

Gardner, E. G., .. Dante’s Ten heavens

Hettinger, Franz, ... Dante’s Divina Comedia

Hannay, David, ........ Later renaissance

Snell, F. J. .......... Fourteenth century literature

Thayer, W. R. ....... Best Elizabethan plays

Bradford, W. .... History of Plymouth plantations.

Janssen, J. ........ German people at the close of the middle ages.

Omar, C. W. C ........ History of Greece

Pauli, R. ............... History of the Reformation

Spalding, M. J ... History of the Reformation

Anchibald, A .. Story of the earth’s atmosphere

Hann, J. .............. Handbuch der Klimatologie

Larrabee, W. .......... Railroad question

Morris, W. tr ........ Tale of Beowulf

Poynting & Thompson, .. Sound

Prudden, T. M., .......... Histology

Thompson, M. S., .... Rhythmical gymnastics

Rowe, S. H., ....... Physical nature of the child

Scott, ................ Organic education

Latin teacher—Give me an example in English of a future perfect vivid condition.

Sentimentalist—If he should come I would be glad.—New Collegian.

The soil is so fertile in Cuba that if you stick a pin in the earth it becomes a terrapin. It is even said that they raise umbrellas during the rainy season.—Ex.

Exchanges.

Of two wrongs choose neither.—Ex.

Crushed in ‘‘defeat’’—Chinese women.—Ex

For the average Jew it is against his principle to pay the interest and against his interest to pay the principal.—Rabbi Hirsch.

Training is everything. The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is only cabbage with a college education.—Ex.

Drink less—breathe more; eat less—chew more; clothe less—bathe more; ride less—walk more; sit less—dig more; waste less—give more; write less—read more; preach less practice more.—Music Life.

The minor skills and accomplishments, for instance dancing, are tickets of admission to the dress circle of mankind, and the being master of them enables the youth to judge intelligently of much, on which, otherwise he would give a pedantic squint.—Emerson.

“The teaching and study of elementary mathematics’’ by Dr. David E. Smith, the initial volume in the ‘‘Teachers’ Professional Library’’ series is announced for immediate publication by the Macmillan Co. Dr. Smith is admittedly the best qualified man in the United States to prepare a work of this kind, and teachers of mathematics in school and college will await its appearance with no little interest.—Journal of Pedagogy.

It was a well educated (?) man that drove into town and said to the chamber-maid of the leading livery: ‘‘Young man, extricate this quadruped from the vehicle, stabulate him and donate him an ample supply of nutritious aliment, and when the aurora of morn, blushing like a bride, shall have again illuminated the eastern horizon, I will reward you with a pecuniary compensation according to the merits of your amiable hospitality.’’ The young man stared, then stepping to the door, said, ‘‘Fadder, here’s a foriner out here.’’—Ex.
THE NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS

THE NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS
Issued 18 times a year.

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Ypsilanti, Mich.

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EDITORIAL.

Some of our foreign subscribers may have looked in vain for their paper last week, but there was the best of reasons for it. The college has been adjourned for the spring vacation and it was impossible to deliver papers to the large number of our local subscribers. It therefore seemed best to postpone it for one week.

The two leading articles of this number as may have been noticed are theses. These are representative of the work done here, the one from the history department and one from the geography department. Both of them are excellent in their line and illustrate the work demanded outside of the regular class work.

O inconsistancy, thou art a jewel! The following appears in one of our best exchanges from Kansas: "It is a shame for any college paper worthy of the name to clip from a contemporary and simply credit the item as ‘Ex.’" Three pages farther on in the same paper the following appears:—"What nations are most feared by high school pupils? Examinations.—Ex!"

A recent paper from Oklahoma speaks very highly of Prof. A. A. Snowden in connection with his work at the Normal. He occupies the chair of ancient and modern languages and besides has charge of the college choir.

HOW BASEBALL STARTED.
The devil was the first coacher. He coached Eve when she stole first Adam stole second. When the servant of Isaac met Rebekah at the well she was walking with a pitcher. Samson struck out a good many times when he beat the Philistines. Moses made his first run when he slew the Egyptians. Cain made a base hit when he slew Abel. Abraham made a sacrifice. The prodigal son made a home run. David was a long distance thrower, and Moses shut out the Egyptians at the Red Sea.—Ex.

"How dear to our heart
Is the paid up subscriber,
Who knew by pure instinct
His 'fifty' was due.
But those who delay
We refrain from description,
For that gentle reader,
That one may be you."—Chat.

A cheerful intelligent face is the end of culture, and success enough, for it indicates the purpose of nature and wisdom attained. —Emerson.

Do not laugh at the man with the demure face, fringed trousers and battered hat; he may once have been connected with a college paper.—Ex.
Hello—kisses—checks—hacks—rooms—college—lessons—bone!

Make it a point to be present at the oratorical contest! It occurs next Friday evening, April 6.

Mr. Hoyt C. Partch has been obliged to leave college for the present semester, but we hope to see him back next fall again.

The following suggestion was offered by one of our teachers just before examinations: "If you have any ponies just hitch them outside."

Mr. George Dennison, ’85, and wife visited his family here during vacation. Mr. Dennison has a good position as superintendent of schools at Dundee.

One of our dignified (?) seniors complained of his satchel being wonderfully heavy on his way home. Imagine his thoughts when on arriving home, he found two large stones carefully packed away in the bottom. Have you found who it was?

Prof. B. F. Mertz of Columbia University has been engaged to take Prof. Hoyt's place for the present quarter. Prof. Mertz is a graduate of the U. of M. and has been making special preparation along the line of Psychology and Sociology.

Profs. Strong and Barbour acted as judges at the oratorical contest at Ann Arbor, March 23, to secure a representative for Michigan in the coming Northern Oratorical Contest. The winner was Geo. W. Maxley of Pennsylvania, who spoke on "Webster's Reply to Hayne."

The successful closing of the semester's work with the music student-teachers of the training school was appropriately observed Saturday evening, March 10, when they were royally entertained at the pleasant home of Miss Clyde Foster, on North Adams street. Refreshments were served and it was a late hour when the merry guests departed.

Prof. J. F. Selleck of Millersburg visited old friends in the city during vacation.

Miss L. Thompson and Miss Stickney have returned from their semester's vacation and will resume their teaching.

The last and most interesting number on the lecture course will be a lecture on "Liquid Air," by Prof. W. C. Peckham, April 19.

The Normal will have to move on without four of its heads of departments for the coming semester. Profs. King, Hoyt, Barbour and Bowen take their vacation.

Miss Abbie Rowe, critic teacher of the sixth grade, spent vacation at her home in Benton Harbor. Miss Mary L. Berkey of the fifth grade visited in Champaign, Ill.

Prof. Edward J. Hall of the Grand Rapids Central High School visited Ypsilanti friends during vacation. Prof. Hall graduated from the Normal in '95 and last June he took the degree of B. A. from Harvard University.

On the afternoon of March 25, was solemnized the marriage of Miss Bessie Hall of this city and Mr. Bert N. Blakeslee. Miss Hall will be remembered here by her host of friends and Mr. Blakeslee was a popular Normal student in '98. Mr. and Mrs. Blakeslee left in the evening for their future home in Bay City.

Miss Anna A. Schryver, who is away from the Normal on a year's leave of absence, sailed for Europe March 21. It is her intention to make a tour of England, Germany and France, studying the various school systems of each country. Miss Schryver will return in time to continue her work as head of nature study department at Chautauqua in July.

Ypsi was almost deserted during vacation, but still a jolly crowd took the Saline car on the evening of March 24 and were soon at the home of their hostess, Melissa Hull. The evening was spent with games, music, and a good, old fashioned candy-pull. All too soon the last car left and the merry-makers wended their way homeward, having had a gay time.
Miss Pina LaRowe has left college and accepted a good position as preceptress at Hudson.

Prof. W. P. Bowen will be away during the present semester. He will take some advanced work at the U. of M.

The Aurora grind box is doing good service. So far there have been collected one old handkerchief and a letter! Let the good work go on.

Supt. C. L. McCullough of Orion visited the Normal recently. The school board has rewarded him with a raise of $50 for next year.

The last critic meeting of student teachers on March 20, was decidedly an innovation. The critic teachers gave them a very pleasant reception in the training school chapel as a farewell meeting with Prof. Grawn. A very pleasant hour was enjoyed by about 200 seniors during which dainty refreshments were served. Prof. Grawn gave a farewell talk to his many teachers, most of whom are his personal acquaintances. It is unnecessary to say that Prof. Grawn leaves in Ypsilanti hosts of friends whom he has made during his short term here, and the college sustains an incalculable loss in Prof. Grawn's leaving.

The reception given by the senior class to the faculty and seniors was one of the most successful efforts of the class. It was given in the ladies' gymnasium on Saturday March 17, and a large crowd enjoyed the pleasant hours of the evening. The decorations were acknowledged to be the finest ever seen there. A solid canopy of white overhead and a large white canvas on the floor together with yards of class colors gracefully draped made it one grand reception room. The numerous cosy corners, screens, plants, etc., made a very pleasing effect. In due time a grand march was formed which finally broke into a two-step and about an hour's dancing was enjoyed to the delicate strains of the harp. Altogether it was a very enjoyable event and the class are to be congratulated on their success.

Mr. L. P. Whitcomb has resigned his position at Grosse Isle and will take Prof. Bowen's place in the gymnasium during the present semester.

We are sad to note that Mr. Carl C. Stump will not be in college this quarter. Especially will our baseball team suffer as "Stump" was one of our main stays of the infield.

Miss Beatrice Nesbitt has been elected editor-in-chief of the Aurora, in place of Miss Pina LaRowe who has resigned. Miss Julia E. Smith was elected to fill the vacancy on the board.

Y. W. C. A.

Miss Walton addressed the Y. W. C. A. Sunday afternoon, March 18, on "Christian Biography." Her subject was presented in a most pleasing manner and was an interesting one.

Miss Barnes, state secretary for Michigan and Ohio, paid a visit to Ypsilanti on her way to Hillsdale and gave an interesting and as well as instructive talk to the girls, at Starkweather Hall, Tuesday afternoon, March 13, giving us an idea of the work done by other college associations and an inspiration to do more and better work for our own. It was especially helpful to the newly elected officers.

The Y. W. and Y. M. C. A. celebrated their first anniversary on the evening of March 10, by a program and social evening, Starkweather Hall being well filled in honor of the occasion. Ex-President Lee presided and Pastor Brown of the Baptist church gave the invocation. The presidents of the associations, Miss Helen Elgie and J. H. Kempster gave reports of the year's work, followed by talks from Profs. Lyman, Grawn and Laird, and Dr. Allen, which were especially helpful and encouraging. Miss Mary B. Stewart of Detroit, chairman of the state committee, was present and gave an address. The Y. M. C. A. quartet and Miss Wall in each rendered fine music.
The Normal College News.

After the program the company adjourned to the parlors which were tastefully decorated with bunting and Japanese lanterns. A number of new articles and furniture added to the comfort and pleasure of the evening. The associations have largely increased in membership during the year and are in good working order, which promises well for the future. It is hoped that a larger number of students than ever will ally themselves with the associations for the ensuing year.

**Sigma Nu Phi.**

Mrs. C. T. MacFarlane has honored the sorority very much by kindly accepting their invitation to become one of their patronesses.

Mock initiation was held at the home of Miss Florence Batchelder, March 15. The pledged members who attended with fear and trembling were Misses Mary W. Clark, Marjory Ronan, Agnes Beryl Miller and Grace Guerin.

The regular initiation of the sorority was held at the Ladies' Library, Saturday, March 24. After the new members were thoroughly initiated into the mysteries of the occasion the remainder of the evening was most enjoyably spent by all at the expense of our new members.

The last regular meeting of the Sigma Nu Phi sorority was held at the rooms of Miss Jessie Raub. All present report a most enjoyable times. During the evening the following officers were elected for the remainder of the year:

- H. M. M.—Una Palmer.
- C. E. C.—Flora LaRue.
- S. S. S.—Grace Hammond.
- T. C.—Winnetta Marsh.

**Phi Delta Pi.**

On March 16, the fraternity elected officers for the third quarter as follows: President, L. A. Butler; vice-president, I. W. Embury; secretary, A. O. Goodale; treasurer, L. R. Perry; editor, J. A. Ewing; executive committee, I. E. Chapman, M. E. Dick and Harry Lattenton. The fraternity now has twenty-four members and is the most successful it has been in years. Recently the boys posed at Waterman's and as a result we have a fine picture forthcoming.

On the evening of the seventeenth of Ould Ireland, owin' to the toime fer honerin' the riverend gentleman and the coherin' desire fer waltzin' and tu-stepin' and enjoymin' generally, a fome gatherin' of ladies and gentlemen came into the presence of each other in the Gurl's Book Bihdin' at the bid of three of the byes of the brotherhood.

For the benefit of St. Patrick's sons and daughters who read this notice, the aforesaid purposes were nary a one missed or forgotten. Had Patrick himself been prinsit, his greetin' would have been, "the top of the evenin' to you!" Nigh onto the evenin' of the eliventh hour the celibrash un closed to the gintle strains from the "Irish Hornpipe" of "Home, Swate Home."

On the evening of the 21st of March the members of the fraternity with their ladies were very pleasantly entertained at the home of their patron, Prof. C. O. Hoyt. After a brief reception the amusing work of the evening was begun—that of piecing blocks. Two prizes each were offered to ladies and gentlemen for the best and poorest work of piecing blocks. Each was required to make their own blocks, plan, etc., and thread their own needle. With unusual energy the needles were plied and soon there were so many artistic blocks that the judges had much difficulty in deciding the winners. After much deliberation the first ladies' prize—a dainty emery sack—was awarded to Miss K. Thompson, and the booby prize—a pin cushion—to Miss Austin. The boys' prize was still more interesting. Mr. M. E. Dick won the first prize—a fine silver penknife. But the famous orator could not sew! Mr. J. S. Lathers won the booby—a unique pin-cushion!
Excellent refreshments were then served and the remainder of the evening was spent in games, tricks, etc. It is such evenings as these that make the school life doubly interesting and it is with deep feeling of regret that the fraternity says good-by to its patron for the following semester.

**N. C. A. A.**

The beautiful new athletic cup for the girls is now on exhibition in Mr. Showerman's window. It is a large silver cup with gold lining and is certainly worth the best efforts of the various classes.

The baseball team will soon begin its outdoor practice and be given training in 'stick work' and fielding. Since January 1st a squad of about 20 men have been work steadily in the gymnasium getting into shape for the contests before them. Drill has been given a floor practice, starting, track work, base sliding and battery work. Our prospects this year are exceedingly good, as seven of our men from last year's team are back and we have a variety of batteries with Failor, Norris and Sherman as pitchers, and Gass and King as catchers. With these there are also prospects for a very good second team. The boys are in excellent condition for this time of year and we sincerely hope to win out in the intercollegiate race in which we stood only second last year.

Manager Reid has arranged the following schedule with the M. I. A. A. colleges but it may have to be changed somewhat:

- April 21, Albion at Ypsi.
- April 28, Olivet at Ypsi.
- May 5, M. A. C. at Ypsi.
- May 12, Ypsi at Olivet.
- May 19, Ypsi at M. A. C.
- May 26, Ypsi at Albion.

This leaves April 14, May 30, June 9 and 16 open dates besides the possible Friday games.

Mrs. Burton has published the hoop drill, which was given at the closing exercises last June. Those who expect to teach will be glad to get this as it is fully illustrated and is just the thing for higher grades as well as high school work. Copies may be obtained at the gymnasium office.

**Mock Congress.**

March 10. House called to order with Speaker Butler presiding. After a very interesting discussion on the 'Porto Rican Resolution,' which was lead by Representatives Cameron, Chapman, Crawford, and Sherman. The bill was voted upon and finally carried.

March 17. The election of officers for next year resulted as follows: Speaker, A. E. Sherman; vice-speaker, H. Luttenton; clerk, M. E. Dick; treasurer, A. O. Goodale; executive committee, E. R. Rice; L. C. Kittell A. J. Dann; editor, J. A. Craig, Serg't at arms, I. E. Chapman.

Although this is our last session for this year, we hope the work may be taken up with the greatest spirit next fall and the results be very profitable and instructive.

A century ago in America Virginia contained a fifth of the whole population of the country; the Mississippi Valley was not so well known as the heart of Africa now is; two stage coaches carried all the travelers between New York and Boston. Six days were required for the journey; there was not a public library in the United States. Stoves were unknown, all cooking being done at an open fireplace; three fourths of the books in every library came from beyond the Atlantic. "Who reads an American book?" was an Englishman's sneer of the early part of this century; when a Virginian started on a journey to New York he made his will and bid farewell to his friends as if he never expected to see them again; beef, pork, salt-fish, potatoes and hominy were staple articles of diet all the year around.
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