1900

The Normal College News, January 2, 1900

Eastern Michigan University

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The Normal College News.

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SAMSON'S.
TELEPHONE 68. 511 CROSS ST.
FEBRUARY, '98 was the appointed time for an educational rally of the Superintendents of the United States. Several cities were anxious to prove their hospitality to the teachers as was witnessed by the strenuous efforts made, months before, to secure the important meeting. Chattanooga was finally chosen as the most desirable Mecca, and the pedagogues of high and low degree flocked thither for wisdom, sight seeing and inspiration.

What a ride that was for Michigan's representatives from Detroit across Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee! How the idea of the size of our country increased! How the fertility of her soil, the comfortable homes of her citizens, the variety of her climate, the ever changing scenery of meadow, forest and mountain impressed the beholders with a feeling of pride and satisfaction! Pride because it was our country and satisfaction because it was the land of the free and the home of educational privilege and opportunity.

Reaching the city at night-fall, tired and hungry, we were in a condition to test the hospitable spirit and well filled larder of our southern friends, and truly had their sagacity provided for the unusual demand which northern appetites created. Looking the historic place over somewhat the next day we found less of rush and hurry, less of enterprise and thrift, but more of courtesy and leisure to direct strangers to places of interest. For the time being Chattanooga was ours, with Lookout Mountain thrown in, and the occupation was as complete and enjoyable as the surrender was hearty and unconditional. The air which fanned our cheeks was not the balmy southern breeze from the gulf but a belated blizzard which, starting in the Northwest, had followed us to the land of sunshine and punished us royally for leaving our heaviest overcoats at home. But no amount of cold or storm could prevent the Michigan delegation, under the leadership of the quiet and sedate H. R. Pattengill, from filling a Tally Ho and starting for a thirty six mile ride over the historic and hallowed grounds of Mission Ridge, Chickamauga and a portion of Lookout Mountain. Then began our first lesson, the memory of which will not soon fade away.

To stand on the elevation from which Gen. Grant watched and directed the battle of Mission Ridge, was to be fired with the martial spirit. To behold the ruins of the rifle pits which Gen. Thomas' heroes took at double quick, and without halting and without orders advanced to the second line taking it and completely rout ing the rebels, was to make us proud of those who wore the blue. To hear in imagination that gray visaged hero answer the impetuous question of Gen. Grant, 'Who ordered those men to advance beyond the first line of rifle pits?' while tears of pride and joy coursed down his cheeks, 'No one ordered them, they ordered themselves,' made us believe more thoroughly in the initiatory spirit and ability of these who stood between the leaden hail of southern guns, and the northern home. To stand on Chickamauga's hard fought field and occupy the position which the 'Rock of Chickamauga,' held so gallantly during that awful afternoon in the sixties and to recall the fact that his stubborn resistance saved the army, was to believe that this republic had a mission to perform and that the God of Nations was at the helm. To tread the dizzy heights of Lookout Mountain and measure the effort necessary to drive the rebels from their entrenchments at the top and place old Glory upon the highest crag, was to Northern peda-
gogues the cost of an undivided country and the price paid for the maintainance of American institutions.

The number of those who, on those gory fields gave their lives that the country might live, was not left wholly to our imagination. Entering the National Cemetery we saw them placed in orderly array, silent witnesses to the horrors of war. Here was a mighty host of Northern braves whose names, state, and regiment were duly inscribed on the plain marble slabs. There another, the dusky sons of the Southland who petitioned Massa Lincoln to let them help to gain their freedom. Yonder another host whose history was summoned up in that desolate word "Unknown." All these passed before our sympathetic eyes in mournful review, telling the old, old story that the road to higher conditions for the human race was literally corduroyed with human souls, the best of their kind, freely offered up in sacrifice. Other silent witnesses bore testimony to the wholesale destruction of those eventful hours. The forest trees, with trunks, scarred and mutilated by cannon shot, shell and rifle bullets, told in an impressive way what chances were taken by that volunteer host. Standing on Lookout’s consecrated soil, 2,500 feet above sea level, one felt like baring his head in the sunlight and pledging his life, his fortunes, and his sacred honor, like the heroes of ’76 for the maintainance, purity and progress of the institutions, whose cost no man can compute. Thus endeth the first lesson whose story must be largely read between the lines.

The second lesson is pedagogically related to the first, and attempts to disclose a few facts related to the intellectual progress of those, from whose hands the American Moses struck the shackles of slavery and to whom were given the ballot as a pledge of protection and a badge of citizenship.

Chattanooga has schools for the whites and schools for the blacks, and no mixing of colors is allowed. The same superintendent has them all in charge, hence the conditions were favorable for estimating both progress and ability. We spent several hours in each and in all fairness assert that as good work was seen under the care of college-trained colored ladies among their own class as was found among the departments in the schools for the whites. At an exposition held in Augusta, Ga., some months prior to our visit, the colored schools of Chattanooga secured deserved recognition as their prizes indicated. All kinds of school work were well done and appealed strongly to our interests, but the singing, arranged especially for the benefit of the Northern visitors, captured the audience whose cheers and hand clapping reminded one of Michigan. These colored children had been trained by cultured musicians of their own blood, and the harmony was rich and full in highest measure. I used to think in my boyhood days as I heard stories of the plantations and the songs they sang in their evening gatherings, that God compensated them for their distresses by flooding their souls with melody which lifted them above their cares. When this nature power of song finds a cultured guidance under conditions of freedom and education, its expression is better felt than told. We retraced our steps to the larger educational gathering, glad in heart that a race stolen from its home on Africa’s soil was having a larger chance for development and was improving every opportunity, seemingly, presented to it. The following query voiced itself more than once as our minds reverted to the subject,—how long and how patiently ought the white race to wait for the development of that once enslaved people, and how generously and indeed how lavishly should United States funds be supplied for their education? Who shall estimate the justice which is their due by reason of these two hundred fifty years of unrequited toil, whose moanings and sorrows were multiplied by the cruel lash of the slave driver? Thus endeth the second lesson whose watchword is—"God has not forgotten His world nor the children who inhabit it, and in fullness of time Justice tempered with Mercy.
will balance National, State and individual accounts.

The third lesson is also closely connected with the first and shares its glory while it assumes a part of its responsibility.

When proceeding homeward from the battle fields with their stationed cannon and marble tablets recording heroic sacrifice, with their evidences of contending forces, both American and both chivalrous, we spied a country school-house, and our curiosity impelled us to enter. What a visiting committee that was! What a surprise to a Georgia school ma'am of less than one year's experience! Seventeen Michigan teachers entered that room in single file and began to ask questions. School work was suspended for twenty minutes while the curiosity pedagogues plied their accustomed art. The little lady was equal to the occasion and proved conclusively to us that she was doing her best for those boys and girls. Conversation with the children revealed the fact that they loved the teacher and hence one set of very important conditions for a good school was realized. The room itself was barren and gloomy enough surpassing in that line any building we had ever seen in our own state, even in its poorest sections.

It did not take us long to discover that the children were of that class known as the "poor whites," and thus again the history of our common country intruded itself into our thoughts. We recalled once more the heroic efforts many of the Southern states were making to educate two classes of pupils whose claims upon national assistance and support were strong beyond question. The children of slavery and the benighted offspring of that other class, "The Poor White Trash" have found the school house with an open door and are doing their best to make up for centuries of neglect. The thirty six members of that school, with threadbare garments and pinched faces constituted a mute but powerful appeal to our Northern sympathies. We were glad indeed to find so much of the spirit of kindliness and helpfulness in that desolate building. Their lessons in geography, spelling, and reading did not voice themselves in our hearing nearly as emphatically as did their own sad history. The refrain which rang its changes in our ears took the following sad and truthful form.

We are the descendants of those who for many years have been ground between the upper and nether mill stone of no market for labor and no schools for their children. The dark shadow, cast by slavery, crossed our threshold and joy, opportunity, and happiness vanished. Decades passed away, hope died, and ambition took a long vacation. We suffered in silence trusting that the night would soon end and a brighter morn be heralded. It came on January 1, '63 when that gifted leader of the republic, himself born to want and intellectual privation, took up his pen and wrote the words which sounded the death knell of the monster which had desolated our homes so long. Now for the first time since our land was settled school houses open to us and we hail the new opportunity as God's evangel of mercy and love for the downtrodden ones. What of our progress? Well, it will take time to undo the results of long periods of neglect and misery. We are beginning to wake up and the decades of the twentieth century even before its middle point is passed will look down upon bettered conditions and more hopeful prospects. Illiteracy will lift its blighting form from the Southland and pass away never to return. Education will multiply opportunities and develop larger capacity for using them wisely and well. Aspiring hope and returning ambition will usher in, in all its glory, the long prayed for day of peace, plenty, and knowledge.

Thus endeth the third lesson whose spirit is a prayer, that Northern generosity and beneficence may pour into the treasuries of those struggling districts the wherewith to establish and maintain schools worthy of the name, that shall brighten the prospects and hasten the glorious destiny of the best land under the sun, America.
Our lessons end; the visit terminates; we look for a last time upon the seamed and towering sides of Old Lookout, recently snow-covered but now smiling in the sunshine. Its warming influence thaws from our hearts whatever of coldness or indifference any phase of sectionalism may have caused, and in meditative mood we voice the verdict of all true Americans viz: hereafter there shall be in our thought and teaching, no North, no South, no East, no West, but one loved land whose century and more of history as a republic shall be but a faint gleam of the golden age which shall follow. When widespread culture and wisely directed energies shall bring in peace, harmony, and equality. Then, indeed, shall we be cosmopolitan and have a deep interest in all the peoples who inhabit our globe.

To this key let us pitch the labor songs of our privileged lives, and wherever our lot may be cast, shed a halo of light about the common tasks, the common virtue, the common people, and the common Christ whose sacrifice and joy have done much to make many spots on this old earth blossom as the rose.

A MEDLEY ON SPRING.

ESCA G. ROGIER.

Prologue.
The history of this medley mine
I may as well deliver,
Before I pour forth a sad tale
To make your glad hearts quiver.

Long, long ago I wrote this thing,
Oh, ages old, methinks it seems,
Since first the "Medley on Fair Spring"
Dawned on the vision of my dreams.

Oh tedious days and tiresome nights,
When long and hard I labored,
O'er this dry, dismal, dull compound,
By Providence unfavored.

At last I found my little piece.
And to this measure driven.
This poem written for the Spring,
At Christmas shall be given.

Before I begin my song of Spring,
I'd like to mention just one thing
About the nature of the tale,

Lest you to comprehend it fail,
It wouldn't "medley" all the time,
So part the song is of my rhyming.

I love the season well
When forest shades are teeming with bright forms
The dark clouds heavy storms foretell,
And someone stole my antherell.
Fair spring whose simplest promise more delights
Than all their largest wealth, and through the heart
Each joy and new born hope
With soft influence breathes.

But this year filled my heart with grief
'Twas the noon of the springtime, yet never a bird
In the windshaken elm or the maple was heard.
For green meadow grasses, wide levels of snow,
And blowing of drifts where the crocus should blow.
One eve I sat musing o'er this state of things,
And wished for the coming of happier springs.
When I heard a voice whisper in solemnest tones,
"Your wish gentle maid will never be granted,"
Then this dire tale was sorrowfully chanted,
Of a spring of destruction to the Normal girls joy,
Of a spring of destruction to the one Normal boy.

The lovely town was white with apple blooms,
And the great elms o'er head.
Dark shadows wove on their aerial looms,
Shut through with golden thread.
When the nine hundred and ninety-nine Normal girls
Made their way through the winding street
To the home of their dearly loved Normal boy,
Their Normal boy pretty and sweet
("For in times to come," said the ghostly voice,
"The boys will dwindle to one,
But this one lad will be adored
By all the co-eds that come.")
"The summer will soon be here, sweet boy,
For the birds of brighter bower
Are singing their way from the balmy South,
To the land of opening flowers."
"Come forth, come forth and walk with us
Through the fields with blossoms spread."
"Up, up, my friend, and quit your books,
Or surely you'll grow double."
Up, up, my friend, and clear your looks
Why all this toil and trouble?"
Thus they urged the Normal boy,
To come out and share their joy.
Persuasive speech and more persuasive sighs,
Silence that spoke and the eloquence of eyes
Hoped against hope and asked till they received.
Careless their merits or their faults to scan,
His pity gave ere charity began.

The drawbridge closed with a surly clang,
And through the dark arch the Normal boy sprang.
"I come, I come, ye have called me long,
I come from my chamber with laugh and song, 
Ve may trace my steps by the mud I left."
Then there arose from the wailing throng 
A cry that was rapturous, loud and long.
"He is coming, our own, our sweet,
Were it ever so airy a tread,
Our hearts would bear it and beat,
Were they earth in an earthy bed."
Then they set forth in the field to bide,
With the precious boy in their midst.
And happy she who walked by his side,
"The proudest now is but my peer,
The highest no more high,
Today of all the weary year,
A queen of girls am I."
Then they coo to him with softest words
"But to see him was to love him,
Love but him, and love forever."
"Oh my love is like a red, red rose,
That's newly sprung in June;
Oh my love is like the melody
That's sweetly played in tune."
His very frowns are fairer far,
Than smiles of other fellows are 
"Thy voice is on the rolling air,
I hear thee where the waters run,
And in the setting thou art fair."
"Love may come and love may go,
And fly like a bird from tree to tree,
But I will love no more, no more,
Unless you say you'll care for me."
Thus they wandered through the lanes,
Muddy yet with April rains,
Till a slippery spot they found,
And, alas, the boy fell down!
All the girls sprang to the rescue,
Lost their balance and fell down too.
Where, oh where was the Normal lad
That made the Normal girls so glad?
Oh snatched away in beauty's bloom,
On thee shall press no ponderous tomb,
But on thy turf shall roses rear
Their leaves, the earliest of the year,
And the wild express wave in tender gloom.
And what of th' saddened Normal girls?
Too much horrified to speak.
"He was a man, take him for all in all,
I shall not look upon his like again."
"And when his bones are dust, his grave a blank,
His station, generation. even his nation
Will become a thing or nothing save to rank
In chronological commemoration."
"Soldier, rest, thy warefare o'er,
Sleep the sleep that knows no waking.
Dream of Normal girls no more,
Normal lirts and sad heart-breaking."
Weep no more, ladies, weep no more.
Men were deceivers ever,
One foot in sea and one on shore,
To one thing constant never."
Then the ghostly voice stopped speaking.
"Prophet," cried I, "thing of evil—prophet still if
bird or devil,
Whether tempter sent, or whether tempest tossed thee
here ashore,
Desolate, yet still unhammed, on this desert land
enchaunted,
On this home by honor haunted—tell me truly, I
improve,
Must the Normal thus go boyless, thus go boyless
evermore?"
Quoth the prophet, "evermore!"

LIBRARY.

Recent accessions to the library include the following books:

- Detroit Public Library—Dictionary Catalogue 2nd supplement 1894-98.
- Bennett, C. E............. Latin Grammar.
- Fraser, Mrs. Hugh—Letters from Japan 2 v.
- Rhodes, J. F............. History of U. S. v. 4.
- Medley, D. J.—English Constitutional History.
- Holm, A............. History of Greece, 3 v.
- Sharp, W............. Dante Gabriel Rossetti.
- Price, W. T............. Technic of the Drama.
- Dowden, E.—French Revolution and English History.
- Canada............. Geological survey 13 v.
- Roberts, R. D............. Earth's History.
- Geikie, J............. Earth's Sculpture.
- Bonny, T. G............. Volcanoes.
- Holden, E. S............. Earth and Sky.
- Campbree, W. W............. Practical Astronomy.
- Harrington, Mark........... All about the Weather.

Subscribe for The Normal College News.
We want all the alumni items we can get. Send them in.

This number of The News would regularly have appeared Dec. 19, but owing to the vacation, it was impossible to get it printed and distributed before the students left for the holidays. We are sorry that it happened so as some of the matter may seem a little old but we hope it may still be worth reading.

There are a good many subscribers who have not yet paid the subscription price for The News. It is long past due and is anxiously awaited by the management. With the next issue we shall consider discontinuing the paper to the few foreign subscribers who have not already settled. If you do not receive your paper regularly you will do a great favor by notifying us immediately that we may find the mistake and correct it.

Notice! The question has been asked us, 'Do we want students' articles?' Most assuredly we do and we are anxious to get them. If any one knows of a good story or poem or anything of this sort, we would be very glad to hear of it. We print in this number a poem whose theme is 'The Boyless Normal.' The sentiment expressed is very fitting and it also shows acquaintance with a great number of the best poems. We shall continue to look for 'Students' articles.'

According to the new division of the college year into four quarters, the new semester begins in January. Examinations were all over before Christmas and everything should be ready to start in directly after vacation. The new scheme for examination is not meeting the entire approval of the students. As it is now, each class has two or three recitation hours of the last week of the semester for final examinations. In many cases students have had two or three examinations each day for two or three days in succession. This does not seem best for the student and we hope to see it changed.

The Debates.

There is an interest in debating at the Normal this year that has not been equaled in many years. The material, however, is new, and much training is necessary to put the men in a condition to successfully compete with Kalamazoo. At the primaries the entries were astonishingly large in comparison with previous years and although the judging has not been entirely satisfactory in the intermediates, from the six who will enter the final contest, a strong team can be chosen.

The first intermediate was held in room 51 December 10. Mr. Mitchell, the president of the oratorical association presided and announced as judges the following: Prof. Grawn, Rev. Brown, and G. W. Hand. Three societies with their representatives, making eleven in all, were represented, from which the winners were to be chosen to represent the several societies in the final contest. Geo. Miller won first place for the Olympics; Miss Thomas, Crescent; and Mr. Kittell, Atheneum.

The second intermediate was held Monday December 12th. Twelve contestants competed for the honors. The Judges were:
Prof. Jackson, Prof. Bowen and Mr. Munro, of the Commercial. Their decision gave J. Andrew Ewing first place, Mr. Gill second and Mr. Rice third.

These three men together with the three chosen at the first contest will compete for places on the debating team that will meet the Kalamazoo team here at Ypsilanti in the first inter-collegiate debate between the colleges. This series plans for annual debates for three years, alternating, first at Ypsilanti, the second at Kalamazoo and the third again at Ypsilanti.

Our boys need the support of the college. We beat Albion last year and largely because of the interest which our students showed in the contest. Our material is good. From the six men who will compete for places a strong team will be chosen. But debaters cannot debate without the support of the interests which they represent any more than ball players can play ball without the cheers of their fellows to encourage and spur them to their best efforts. Come out to the final and show your interest by your presence and we shall win out.

Are you classified?

Prof. Laird did institute work at Dexter, December 8 and 9.

A student who wanted some money to get home with Christmas time, said she didn't really want her father to get sick, but she wished he'd get the "remittent" fever.

Some students have been having some "fun" getting classified owing to the new rule that after a class has a certain number, no more will be classified into it at that hour. The number varies for the different classes, the accommodations, etc. As a result it is always the best plan to be classified early.

A very delightful reception was given by Mrs. Burton in the Gymnasium Saturday afternoon following Thanksgiving to a large number of young ladies including the advanced girls in the Physical Training Department and their friends. Mrs. Burton was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Lyman, Mrs. Bowen and several lady members of the faculty. Miss Bird and Miss Gareissan sang several numbers in their charming style. Dainty refreshments were served, and dancing added to the pleasure of the guests who appreciated the kind thoughtfulness of Mrs. Burton in entertaining the home-sick girls during a holiday recess.

Miss E. G. McEvoy, whom the members of the class of '96 will remember, makes an interesting communication concerning the meteorite which fell on July 10th at 8 a.m. within the corporation limits of the village of Allegan. A roaring sound was heard and an object seen swiftly approaching the earth at an angle of about forty-five degrees. It struck the earth and buried itself in the sand. A lady in a yard close by, eleven working men in the neighborhood, and a number of children saw the object and heard the sound. At first it was too hot to be touched but later it was dug up and found to measure 14 by 18 inches. Further particulars are given. This is the meteorite noticed in "Science" as found in Allegan and sent to Washington.
Examinations over! Are you “specializing” in anything?

A great deal of ‘rah material is wasted at our college football games.—Ex.

Monday afternoon, Dec. 18, a large and appreciative audience listened to a fine concert given by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, assisted by Mme. Linne, Mr. Meyn, and Wm. H. Sherwood. The orchestra of forty-six pieces under the efficient conductor Mr. Rosenbecker, seemed at their best and received hearty applause. The soloists were very pleasing, especially Mr. Sherwood who called forth long continued applause.

On Wednesday, December 6, Room 59 again witnessed one of its class elections. The class this year is fully as large as those of former years, there being over 300 members. With the present corps of officers, the class hopes to maintain its former reputation and do honor to its alma mater as the “naughty-naughty” class of the M. S. N. C. The following officers were elected:

- President—A. E. Turner.
- Vice-President—Georgia Crandall.
- Secretary—Gertrude Timmons.
- Treasurer—E. J. Wilson.
- Chairman Executive Committee—F. O. Gorton.
- Other Members—Sara Worts, Marcella Bourns, Mr. Wentworth.

The Junior class organized Friday, Dec. 8, Room 59 was filled almost to overflowing with enthusiastic Juniors. At this and at a subsequent meeting Dec. 13, the following officers were elected:

- President—George Gannon.
- Vice-President—Miss Skinner.
- Secretary—Miss Comstock.
- Treasurer—Mr. Ewing.
- Chairman of executive committee—Miss Aline Root. Other members of committee.
- Mr. Faucher, Miss Davis.
- Yellmaster—Ivan Chapman.
- Reporter—Miss Margaritha Rodger.

There is every indication that the junior class this year will prove a strong, loyal organization.

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**Y. W. C. A.**

December 3, Miss Stocum led in a helpful devotional service.

Prof. Laird’s talk on the last Sunday of the term should have been heard by every student. The subject was the Lord’s Prayer.

The Evangel, the Y. W. C. A. Journal had a fine December number. The suggestions for social evenings are especially good.

Effie Kelley Price, who is one of the two secretaries of the student department of the Y. W. C. Association in America, and who was a universal favorite at the Lake Geneva convention, sailed for London the middle of last month.

A union meeting of the Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A. occurred on Dec. 10 and those present were privileged to hear Prof. King. The story of a life portrayed in one of McDonald’s novels was simply and beautifully told and the characteristics dwelt upon. It is such things as this that elevate our ideals and broaden our horizon of life.

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

Miss Blair, the director of the Woman’s Gymnasium of Albion College, was a visitor at the college Wednesday of last week in the interest of an agreement on basketball rules between the several Michigan colleges. An exhibition game was played to illustrate the Ypsilanti rules was played for her benefit.

The meeting at Jackson at which Miss Burton represented this college with a view toward adopting some uniform basketball rules, failed to accomplish any definite results. No agreement was reached by which the difference in the playing rules of the different colleges could be removed. However, there is a possibility of there being no match games between the several colleges. Mrs. Burton has decided to make a trial of the eastern Y. W.
C. A. rules. Those rules are nearly the same as the Y. M. C. A. rules now in use by the boys.

Physical Training after the first year now counts as a 'fifth subject.'

It is amusing to read in some of the exchanges from our brother colleges that an attempt is being made to get enough girls together to organize a basketball team! We feel sorry for them and we might lend them some but it seems impossible. At present there are about 500 girls taking regular gymnasium work here besides a few boys, about 125. The Normal believes in physical training, and rightly, everybody being required to take at least one year of it, while a good many take two years or more.

Wednesday evening, Dec. 20, were held the closing exercises of the gymnasium. The program consisted of girls' and boys' basketball games, parallel bar work by the advanced boys class and Swedish gymnastics and bar-bell work by the ladies. The closing number was the stately minuet given by sixteen young ladies from the class in Physical Training. This was given in costumes and made a very pleasing effect. It was something out of the usual trend of regular gymnasium work and added greatly to the interest shown in the work.

Arm of Honor.

At its regular meeting Dec. 15, the Arm of Honor entertained the Phi Delta Pi fraternity at the Ypsilanti Sanitarium. At 8:30 both fraternities had assembled in the spacious and well equipped parlor where a most enjoyable hour was spent in games, singing, etc. At 9:30 a single line of march was formed and the two fraternities withdrew to the dining room where an excellent four course supper was served. Supper over, Mr. Failor, with a few fitting remarks introduced Mr. George Gannon as toast-master, who assigned the following toasts: "Fratern-

Pi Kappa Sigma.

The Alpha chapter of the Pi Kappa Sigma sorority has recently granted a charter to an organization in the North Western Normal School at Alva, Oklahoma Territory which shall be known as the Beta chapter of the Pi Kappa Sigma Sorority.

Mrs. Alice Eddy Snowden, a former member of the chapter here, has been chosen patroness and with her as a leader, a bright and profitable future can be prophesied for the new organization.

At a meeting of the Pi Kappa Sigma last Saturday evening, the secrets of that organization were revealed to Miss Laurel May Harper, who having faithfully performed her duties as a pledged member, has now been accepted as active.

Miss Lena Knapp as a pledged member now wears the colors of the Pi Kappa Sigma.

The Normal College Lyceum.

Crescent Society.

The Crescent Society held its regular meeting Dec. 8. Among the most interesting features of the program were a review of Adam Bede, by Miss Graves, a paper on The New Normal Boy, and a debate on the question—"Resolved that the poor man's son has greater opportunities for success, than the rich man's son." Mr. Miles and Miss Sanford handled the affirmative and Mr. Kehoe the negative of the question. Such convic-
ing arguments were presented on both sides that the debate was declared a tie. The music for the evening, furnished by Misses Child and Ross, Miss Johnson and Miss Averill was unusually fine.

Friday evening, Dec. 15th the concluding program, for the quarter, was presented, and consisted of music and a review of nations.

ATHENEUM SOCIETY.

The program of the Atheneum society, Friday evening, Dec. 9, was principally given up to Robin Hood papers on—"Was Robin Hood a real character?" "Romance of Robin Hood" and "Ballads" were well given. The remainder of the program consisted of recitations, select readings and music. We were pleased to have with us our former president, Mr. Kelley who gave us one of his pleasing talks.

OLYMPIC SOCIETY.

On the evening of Dec. 8, a Bryant program was given.

After devotional led by Mr. Rice, quotations from Bryant were given by the society members. Mr. Paine then gave a sketch of the first, and Miss Hinkle, a sketch of the last half of Bryant's life. Miss Murdock recited from the poet.

Miss Bowers delivered an oration on Bryant's character, and Miss Mead, an oration on the "Power of the Press."

Mr. Lull gave a comic recitation. The Misses Porter and Gleason favored the society with piano solos and Miss Averill, with a guitar solo. The program was very interesting and instructive and gave evidence of careful preparation.

EXCHANGES.

He took her for an ice cream treat,
His pretty blue-eyed Sal,
But fainted when he read the sign,
"Cream, ninety cents a gal."—Ex.

The janitor recently went into room 50 and saw on the board this sentence: "Find the greatest common divisor." "Hello," says he, "is that blamed thing lost again?"

A sleeping child should always be placed on the retired list.

Daily we write our autographs on the minds and hearts of those around us.

Life may be a stage: but it's more like a court house—it's full of trials.

Our greatest glory consists not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

Homesick boy (writing home)—"Dear Dad—Life is short. Let's spend it together."

Weary passenger (to conductor) "Is this a fast train?" "Yes sir." "I thought so, just get out and see what it is fast to."

The man who was born deaf wanted but little "hear" below.

Russian students who make night hideous by shouting class yells and instigating other kinds of disorder, are sent into the army for from one to three years, in order to put their surplus energy to use.—Ex.

We are in receipt of a copy of The Journal of Pedagogy, an excellent magazine published quarterly in Syracuse, N. Y., and edited by Dr. Albert Leonard. The journal contains some very fine articles, especially one on The Conservation of Mental Energy by M. V. O'Shea of Wisconsin University. It is of especial interest to students and has been placed among the periodicals in the library for their use.

Teach your children that a common school education with common sense is better than a college education without it.

Teach them that a true lady may be found in calico quite as frequently as in velvet.

Teach them that one good, honest trade, well mastered, is worth a dozen beggarly "professions."

Teach them to respect their elders and themselves.

Teach them that God is no respecter of sex, and that when He gave the Seventh Commandment, He meant it for all.
THE NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS.

STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The 49th annual meeting of the Michigan State Teachers' Association was held at Lansing, Dec. 26, 27 and 28. The meeting was a successful one on account of the large attendance and the character of the interesting topics discussed. Anyone who attended could scarcely fail to be impressed with the character of the trend of modern education. It was apparent to even the casual observer, that the thinking teachers are fast getting away from a desire for the mere devices in teaching and are searching for principles that underlie the true method. The scope of the topics was broad and one could see in the attempt of those presenting them, that it was the intention to find great principles of education, rather than mere details. Two very important thoughts seemed to have been emphasized, and were referred to in some way in numerous addresses or papers. The first that the end of education is not in the restricted sense for the sake of the individual alone, but for the sake of the individual as a member of society. What can the school do to secure culture and efficiency? The second appealed to the question, "How shall there be brought about a greater bond of relationship between the school and home or how shall the parent be brought to appreciate the needs of the child in his relation to society? How may school and home be forces to accomplish this, and how may the parent be shown the value and necessity of a trained teacher?"

This in turn led to the consideration of the teacher himself. How can he be made more professional? How trained for this work? In other words, how can the school through the teachers be made more efficient?

It may be of interest to many of the readers of The News to know something of the workings of the great association and it is in the hope that many of our students who are soon to become teachers in the state will attend these meetings and thus secure some of the benefits to be derived.

Two classes of meetings are held, the general meetings and the section meetings. In the former are presented topics of general interest by men of local scholarship and experience. The evenings are given over to lectures by men of reputation and are always worthy of attention. One afternoon is given over to the section meetings of which the following are the most prominent: Commissions, college, high school, primary, physical training, music, kindergarten. At these meetings are presented topics bearing specially upon that particular kind of work, and they are usually attended by only those interested in that department. A new section, the Normal school, was organized this year in which it is purposed in the future to discuss such topics as pertain more particularly to the professional training of teachers both in state and city Normal schools.

At the meeting this year there was one thing worthy of special mention. The attendance of the graduates of our school was large. One could see superintendents of schools, high school principals, and teachers, many graduates in recent years of our school, taking an active part in the transactions, and, as they all gathered for a jolly time at the reunion, one could feel that the function of this institution was being fully realized.

Dr. B. A. Hinsdale of Michigan University was elected president for the ensuing year. It is exceedingly fortunate that we are to be honored by so prominent a presiding officer at the semi-centennial meeting which will be held in Grand Rapids one year hence.

When those who are now students become teachers, let one who has attended these meetings for years urge upon you the benefits resulting from an active membership. You will grow professionally, you will extend your acquaintance, you will get inspiration for work. It will prove a great factor in helping you to succeed in your profession.

C. O. H.

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