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The Normal College News, March 13, 1900

Eastern Michigan University

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The Normal College News.

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MUCH of the criticism that has been showered upon the modern Greeks has arisen from preconceived notions that were altogether false. People have gone to Athens and Greece expecting to find a people worthy of admiration and sympathy, a civilization risen phoenix-like from the dead ashes of years of misrule and neglect into the clear air of the nineteenth century advancement. Because they have found an environment and life only half European, a people with oriental ideas of cleanliness and sanitation, with an estimate of business honor and private honesty not of the West but of the East, and, withal, endowed with a monstrous vanity about themselves and their rights as legitimate successors to the ancient Greeks, foreigners have flown into spasms of indignation. They have called the Greeks half-civilized—and so they are—worse than Turks—that they are not. Do not expect too much of the Greeks when you go to Athens, and you will be neither hurt nor disappointed. In Athens you will find a broad, well paved street, lined with white palaces. Turning a corner, you will find yourself in a noisome alley, beset with dogs and foul with refuse, where the sidewalks reek with the blood of animals slaughtered with no attempt at concealment in the roadside butcher establishments, where every shop you pass gives out an odor all its own, and loathsome beggars whine at every turn. In the same way you will find in the modern Greek, side by side, traits to admire and traits to condemn. On the other hand, you will find that his cruelty to animals is simply sickening. The merest children seem to delight in the torture of dumb brutes. On the other hand, the Greek is a surprisingly fond parent, indulgent and kind to his children. Old age is held in scrupulous reverence. He is frugal to a degree, and even stingy in his ordinary mode of life, yet the best he has is at the service of his friend. He is a firm believer in the benefits of education and has a system worked out ranging from primary school to university. He is in instinct law-abiding—his crimes are those which arise from hot blood and a southern temperament. Brigandage has been practically obsolete for 25 years. And so one could go on indefinitely, offsetting each defect with a virtue, and yet the confession that most foreigners are ready to make on leaving the country is—I dislike the Greeks. but love Greece.

The average tourist limits his acquaintance with Greece to Athens and the country round about. But he who knows merely Athens and the arid attic plain does not know Greece nor its people. Let him who wishes to learn lift up his eyes unto the hills, and mount the mountain walls of Parnes or Penteli, visit the Field of Marathon, penetrate the fastnesses of Boeotia and Phocis, stop to consult the oracle at Delphi, climb Parnassus, cross the Cornithian Gulf, and explore the Peloponnesus. Let him talk to the "Papas" or village priest, let him question the wild looking shepherd in the plain, join the fishermen on the shore and lend a hand at their nets. Let him mingle with the people at their funerals and festivals. In three weeks he will return to Athens with an insight into modern Greek life and love of which three months in an Athenian hotel would furnish not even a hint.
Travel in the interior of Greece is no child's play. He who learns the beaten paths must make up his mind to endure discomfort, even privation. Many places of interest are now accessible by rail, notably Olympia. Steamers ply between most of the important coast towns and the islands. However, a night in the stuffy, vermin-beset cabin of a Greek steamer is an experience that is far from delightful. For visiting the more remote districts, one has to depend upon the rough mules and ponies which the country affords, or on one's own pedestrian powers. There is a sense of adventure that comes from toiling through the country, pack on one's back, stopping when darkness falls to share the bed and board of the rustic Greek. But to stand much of this jaunting one must have sinews and a frame of iron. Ten days or two weeks at the most will bring one back to Athens with a longing for the luxuries of civilization.

It was generally dusk or after when weary and footsore from climbing rough mountain trails or plodding along sunbaked plains, often for hours without water, we would come to a village to seek shelter for the night. The Greek countryman builds his house of the material the country affords, stone in the mountains, sundried brick or stuccoed clay in the plains. The average house boasts but two or three rooms, generally on a level with the ground. Occasionally, however, a prosperous peasant will raise his living rooms a story above the ground, utilizing the first floor for stabling purposes. The houses are huddled around an open space, the ugora, and have, as it were, their backs turned to the surrounding country. It is a somewhat eerie experience to enter a Greek village after nightfall. The dogs, whose number is legion, scent the approach of strangers from afar. They are as fierce as wolves, and it is only by dint of much stone throwing that they are pursued to keep a desirable distance. One stumbles about in narrow alleys, between rows of walks until a belated native is encountered, who vouchsafes information as to the whereabouts of the Bakali. No village is too poor to boast one Bakali. The more prosperous ones may have several. The Bakali is a combination grocery store and tavern, and frequently forms the sole reliance of the traveler. On entering, one is greeted with "Kali speras" or "Good evening" from the company assembled in its smoky atmosphere, redolent with stale wine. The proprietor comes bustling forward, delighted at the advent of the 'Lorthe' or 'Lords' as the common people firmly believe all foreigners to be, and seeing prospects of much fair gain. It is etiquette to shake hands all around and then answer all questions that are put—and they come in showers! The Greek is a child in his inquisitiveness and curiosity. First, he must needs inquire, "Whence do you come," and "whither are you going?" "What is your business in Greece?" "How old are you?" "Are you married?" "How much dowry did your wife bring you?" and so on ad infinitum. It is generally one of the venerable patriarchs of the village who conducts this cross examination, and during its progress a dozen pairs of eager eyes are taking in every detail of the stranger's costume. Wherever one goes in the country, one has to submit to the unfeigned curiosity that manifests itself thus.

The accommodations at these village Bakalis are primitive in the extreme. Dirt and its accompaniments in warm countries are rampant. It is the part of wisdom, however, to adapt one's self to the surroundings. One of the shrewdest judges of Greek character that I know—a woman, by the way, when asked how she managed to get along so well with the modern Greeks, replied, "Because I never complain of what they give me and never ask for anything except that which I am sure they can give me." Gritty brown bread, bitter black olives, goats cheese, generally eggs, and on rare occasions, roast kid or lamb, one can have. After the encomiums bestowed by Robinson Crusoe on roast kid, one has a right to expect something better than the stringy leather offered under that name. To drink, there is the black Turkish coffee, kiase, i.e. the resinated wine of the country, and masticha,
a drink that looks like absinthe and tastes like paragoric. When bedtime comes mine host drags out of a corner a bundle of dirty rags which he spreads on the earthen floor. The wise traveler will prefer the shelter of his own mackintosh and the elevation of a bench or table. It goes without saying that unless he is well seasoned, he is ready and eager to start before sunrise.

Nor can we expect to fare more luxuriously if, as sometimes happens, one of the villagers elects to keep the Lorthi over night. Accommodations will be of the same simple quality, except in the larger towns where the railroad and steamboat have brought some of the appurtenances of civilization. The Greek rustic lives very close to Mother Earth. To us the life he leads in his wretched hovel seems devoid of the necessities of existence, to say nothing of the luxuries. And yet he has his pleasures. Every wedding and betrothal is made the excuse for a holiday. All the countryside assembles to do the occasion meet honor, the men wearing the picturesque fustanella, feg, bright jackets, and saronkia, or slippers turned up at the toe and ornamented with a knot of colored wool. The women come, brave in parti-colored headdresses, often adorned with strings of gold and silver coins, wearing as the major parts of their costume, a heavy white skirt of wool and a bodice embroidered in bright colors. The merrymaking lasts all day and all night as well. Dancing naturally forms an important feature, but here, as in other ways, the self-restraint of the modern Greek displays itself. There is a grave, ceremonial air about his dancing just as there was in the choral marchings about the altar of Dionysos, which contained the germ of Greek tragedy. The motion is around in a circle. Women generally dance with women and men with men. All join hands but the leader, who grasps a handkerchief held by the second in line. The dancing proper is done by the leader, and to the untutored eye, consists of a series of hops, steps, and jumps in time to music. The rest of the line follows with an indiscernible swayling, advancing and retreating motion that lacks neither rhythm nor dignity. The music is invariably furnished by a reed instrument, approximating our flagealet, and a small bass drum. The piper keeps up a wild minor cadence, emphasized by frequent booms of the drum. The effect is weird in the extreme, but there is a kind of savage harmony produced by the combination which is not displeasing.

To make a sudden transition, the burial rites are quite as typical as the marriage celebration. To say that they are trying to the sensibilities is to put the case mildly. The Greeks have a grisly fashion of carrying the corpse to the grave on an open bier. This custom holds good not only of the country, but even of Athens, lowest and highest are borne to their last resting place before the gaze of all men. Our method of burial they effect to scorn. "We would carry away a dog in a box, but not a man," they say. Some claim that this custom dates from Turkish times and was enforced because of the frequency with which escapes were effected by prisoners who feigned death and were carried to a place of safety in the covered coffin. However, in the innate aversion which the whole nation seems to feel toward the European method, there must be some cause of greater significance, having passed by a vital connection with national belief and usage. I shall never forget a funeral that I once witnessed in a poverty-stricken, disease-scourged little town in Boeotia, Zagara, by name. I had by chance arrived in advance of the rest of the party and was sitting in front of the mean little Bakali, kicking away clogs, answering questions, and praying for my friends to rejoin me. Suddenly my attention was arrested by a weird chant, now rising into a wail and again subsiding into a hoarse murmuring recitative. Spontaneously all the company rose, and from between two of the little hovels there issued forth the strangest cavalcade that I have ever witnessed. First came the old village priest in his robes of flowing black, chanting his service, and directly after him
the mourners, several old crones who from
time to time were giving vent to the wailing
cry which I had heard. Then the corpse,
wrapped in a black shroud, roped to a stout
pole and borne on the shoulders of two men.
In that miserable village they had not even
wood enough to make a respectable bier.

When I think of those in Greece who best
deserve the name of Greek, I turn first to the
people of Delphi. One would naturally ex-
pect much of a people who have dwelt for
centuries on the site of the great Oracle of
Apollo, who to this day quench their thirst in
the sacred waters of the Castalian Spring. In
the Delphians one is not disappointed. They
are a simple, kindly folk, justly proud of their
ancestry and their "patritha" or fatherland.
They have preserved their Greek lineage al-
most untainted by Wallachian or Albanian
elements, and even yet they rarely marry
without the borders of their own countryside.
Physically they are the finest of their land.
The Greeks of Attica and Boeotia are often
undersized. Not so these mountaineers
of Delphi, great stalwart, bronzed men,
athletes every one, to whom fatigue seems an
unknown quantity. They have an independ-
ence of hearing and freedom of speech and
action which marks them as of diff erent stuff
from the plodding rustics of the plains about
them. And as the men are the most gallant
I saw in Greece, the women are the most
comely. Even in Athens now-a-days a Byron
would look long for a "Maid" worthy of his
verses.

One hears so much of the hospitality of the
modern Greek to the stranger, a virtue in
which the ancient Greek was particularly
strong. But alas! sixty years of "lorthi"
touring the country with dragomen who, as a
native proverb hath it, "eat gold," have so
opened the eyes of the inhabitants to the main
chance that even in the more remote districts
the traveler is treated not as a guest-friend,
but as a fair prey. Nevertheless, there are
exceptions to the general rule. I love to re-
member the kind reception once received at
the hands of a Boeotian Bakali-keeper, one
day when we were in sore straits. For two
ights and a day we had been enduring real
hardships. The first night we had spent in
a ruined old monastery on the shores of what
was once Lake Copais, but now is a malarial
swamp. Six of us were obliged to share the
rotten floor of a little cell with four Greek
soldiers, whose absence was far more to be
desired than their company. Sleep was im-
possible, it was almost death to be out at night
in that fever-laden atmosphere; yet at three
o'clock, having fortified ourselves with
quinine, we decided to make a start, hoping
to reach the sea and civilization before another
night. For over three hours we struggled on-
ward over a slippery trail that led through
the morass, sometimes losing our way, with
clothing fairly soaked with the damp fog that
always hangs over that region, unable to see
a rod in front of us. Finally, at sun-up,
just as the snakes were beginning to stir, we
had crossed the marshes, but for the rest of
the day our lot was hardly better. Our line
of march lay over arid plains, the sun beat
down with merciless force and drinkable water
was not to be had for love or money. At
last, an hour after sunset we dragged ourselves
into a neglected village still twenty miles from
the sea. The night here, except that we had
water, was but a repetition of the preceding.
A favored few slept on benches, the rest where
they could, on the floor or table of the Bakali.
We again made a start while the
moon was shining, after a breakfast of the
only things the place afforded, coffee and
cigarettes. For about six hours we tramped
along the shore of a lake whose waters we
were afraid to drink, and suffered all the
tortures of the Ancient Mariner. It was not
until eleven that the sea came in sight, a
shimmering blue ribbon with the hills of
Euboea, hazy, across the strain, and there in
the distance through the marvelously clear
we could see the clump of buildings, all that
remains of ancient Anthedon to which we
were directing our steps. The sight of the
promised land where, famished and thirsty as
we were, we knew good cheer awaited us was
too much for the dignity of the party. We did the last two miles on the run and finally, more dead than alive, staggered into a little Bakali, the only one the place afforded. But what a haven of refuge it was compared to the wretched villages in which we had spent the preceding week. The old Greeks had a proverb, "the sea washeth away all stain." It used always to seem to me that when we reached the sea we found men cleaner and better, life in general on a higher plane. The old Bakali-keeper and his wife received us like a veritable Baucis and Philemon. They led us beneath a little arbor overgrown with vines, and like the kindly pair in Ovid's story, although we were not by any means gods, but very mortal men in knickerbockers, they gave us of their humble store, and with such grace that they made it appear that we were their benefactors, not they ours. After we had fairly devastated their larder they refused all pay, except a few drachmae that we pressed upon them in the guise of a present.

The future of the Greek nation must needs lie very close to the heart of all who hold in reverence the race to which modern civilization owes a debt so immeasurable. Greece itself holds little but memories now, yet the beauty and grandeur of her mountains and seas will forever endure. We would therefore wish that there might be in time developed a stock worthy of this enchanted land. Have we in the modern Greeks a people with possibilities equal to the promises that their friends make for them, or has the race reached its ultima thule? Is it bound like Turkey to succumb to the vigor and ever-increasing pressure of the Slavonic tribes to the north? The Greeks are a people who need a strong hand over them. That they have not at present. The popularity of King George, never great, has dwindled to nothingness since the misguided Turkish war that cost the Greeks so dear. It will be years before national pride, and that still more vital factor in a country's development, the national purse, can recover from the damage that this foolish contest wrought. The Greeks will be slow to forget the cowardly and selfish behavior of the princes on that fateful day among the hills of Thessaly, when Constantine turned women from a train that his royal self might go unscathed in dignified retreat, when, at evening, the guns of Prince Nicholas' batterymen found still cold at a safe distance in the rear. Such respect as the Greeks now show their sovereigns is mere disloyalty. Yet there is not nor has there ever been a lack of burning patriotism in the Greek heart. What Hellas needs is united action under a wise leader in sympathy with her, one proud of her past, indulgent toward her present, hopeful for her future. There should be an end to the fickleness that at one moment raises a popular herd, to the skies and the next tramples him under foot. Then, if some of the American farming implements that are cleared each month from the Piraeus to those hardy Bulgarians of the north could be diverted to the Grecian plowlands and the peasants pursued to abjure the forked stick of his fathers, there would be real hope for a future Greece.

SCHOOL-AT-LARGE CONTEST.

On Saturday evening occurred the intermediate contest for the purpose of choosing the four remaining participants for the Annual Oratorical Contest to be held in Normal Hall, April 6. The contest was strong, and the orations showed evidence of careful preparation.

The judges on delivery were Mr. R. D. Calkins, Mr. L. L. Jackson and Mr. G. W. Hand. The final summary of ranks gave Miss Loraine Hunter first place, Orla Norris, second; Joseph Gill, third, and H. A. Kendall fourth. These four persons together with the three already chosen, will compete in Normal Hall, April 6, for the honor of representing the Normal College in the State Oratorical Contest, to be held at Kalamazoo in May. To the person receiving this honor will also be awarded a gold medal by the Oratorical Association.
**EDITORIAL.**

Your Subscription is 50 cents.

Two cent stamps are acceptable

Please send your dues at once and avoid further trouble.

At a recent meeting of the council it was decided to add two new marks to the list of standings on the records, those of C for conditioned and F for failure. This is an improvement in one way in that one is better able to judge of the scholarship of the student. As a result an E on the books with an F beside it means vastly more than simply E.

**"What is one person's loss is another's gain."** We wish to warn students against registering with the so-called Union Teachers' Agency of America, Washington, D. C. This agency has been advertising in this paper and we take this opportunity to warn you that these people are fraudulent and have recently been closed up by the postoffice authorities. This means that The News is out so much, but we hope no one else will be.

**THE HEARTY HAND-SHAKE.**

Did you ever, in walking along the street, Shake hands with a friend you chance to meet, And in shaking discover with a weary sigh, That the palm which you grasp Had the insipid clasp Of a weakling—so listless and dry? Did you ever in seeming friendly array, Bring a smile on your face into active play, And with gusto becoming a hearty good fellow Attempt to inspire then Some kindred feeling in—
To the hand which is weak and so shallow? While out to a function and having a time Were you ever introduced to one "O so prime," And in shaking her dainty flabby white paw, Press it hard and then drop it Like a rag or a puppet. For so weak it would flip flap and saw?

If you've ever been subject to this class of being Who insipidly shake, ne'er acknowledging or seeing Who have no power in their dainty white hand And wince when you shake it with a little sand, Then you I address; to you I am speaking; For I know that like I, for revenge you are seeking. We'll put up a job—just lend me your ear; 
(Press nearer my friend, so well you may hear:) If any such another comes e'er o'er your path And insipidly shaking arouses your wrath, Simply shake his rag palm till he's shook out of breath, And squeeze his insipidness until he chatters his teeth; Bow low and in mockery obeisance then make, And teach him the language of

A Hearty Hand-Shake. 

F. ZEIGEN.

On March second the Juniors held a meeting at which Mr. Faucher was chosen to write the class history for the Aurora. Mr. Harner was elected director of sports in the coming contest. At the girls' meeting the following Wednesday Mrs. Burton explained the nature of the Showman contest. A committee was appointed by the chair to canvas the girls of the class for contestants. Every Junior girl who is qualified to enter should take part in this contest to sustain the honor of the class.
Local and Personal.

Lots of snow!
How many sleighrides did you have?
Miss Walton took a few days’ vacation last week visiting friends at Kalamazoo.

Prof. Julia King was absent last week visiting schools throughout the western part of the state.

The following is the slip made out by a training school boy for a well known book: ‘Whose your Schoolboy.’

It was a tall, red-haired senior teacher who told his pupils that the party with Columbus baked potatoes in kettles!

Miss Agatha Dunstal of Lansing was the guest of Miss Louise Lawler during a short visit in Ypsilanti recently.

Only one more week before we go home for the spring vacation! Just one more week before examinations also!

Mr. Walter J. Rankin recently visited friends at the Normal. We are sorry he will not be back to “ginger up” on first base.

Miss Elizabeth Yost, instructor in the history department, has handed in her resignation to take effect at the end of this quarter. Miss Yost is going abroad for a year’s study, and will leave for Germany soon.

Extensive preparations are being made for the annual reception to be given at the gymnasium, on the evening of March 17. Invitations have been given out and an effort will be made to make this one of the finest receptions of the year.

Unusual interest is being manifested along baseball lines this year. Besides the M. I. A. A. cup which we have in view, Mr. Showerman has offered a fine medal to the best all-around player on the team and Captain John Failor offers a fine Spalding glove for the second best player.

Mr. Allison J. Flint, who has been absent for some time, has returned to college again.

When asked for reports on Froebel, Mr. Stowell said: ‘I know how he got his wife. He was in the museum——?’

One of the young men of our choir is frequently seen chewing a toothpick—probably to give timber to his voice.

Owing to the new division of the school year vacation comes earlier this year. School is out during the last week in March.

Mr. S. U. P. (reporting on a chapter in Leonard and Gertrude)—I’Il report on the Day of Judgment. (audible smiles). There are others!

Arrangements are being completed for the Oratorical Contest to be given April 6. There are several contestants this year, and it promises to be very interesting.

Now comes another siege of classification and arrangement of programs for every student. This is no easy task to classify 1100 students, and we feel sure there are many who will be glad when it is done.

A good many of our faculty have been away during the past week visiting schools throughout the state. As a result several classes are “off” but very busy writing theses. This is a pleasant (?) diversion from the routine class work.

Supt. Paul A. Cowgill, ’93, of Lapeer, visited the Normal March 5, in search of a teacher of French and German. He reports everything lively at Lapeer and it is evident that things are moving along very smoothly under his management.

The mails will soon be flooded with numerous letters from the ‘oo students of the Normal. Several anxious faces will await the returns saying that their application has been placed on file, no vacancy, etc. Or possibly, where could I get recommendations, would you file a picture, what is your age, do you dance, etc.? All very amusing to the prospective teacher!
First Freak—I hear you're a great collector of curios.

Second Freak—Yes; here comes my wife.
—Syracuse Herald.

Mr. J. H. Kempster has been appointed a member of the committee on devotional meetings at the Y. M. C. A. convention at Kalamazoo.

Unique invitations have been given out by Messrs. Lawler, Perry and Rhodes, for an "Irish trot, to be held in anniversary of St. Pat, and in honor of Ould Ireland."

Miss Clyde E. Foster delightfully entertained the critic teachers of the training school, Saturday evening, March 3, at her cozy home on North Adams street.

On the evening of March 8, a party of twelve enjoyed the elegant sleighing and moonlight with a sleighride to the home of Miss Melissa Hull, at Saline. The party was royally entertained with a good supper and dancing. The ride home was most enjoyable, and the wayside farmers were doubtless astonished at the sound of music at the unusual time of night.

On the evening of March 2, a jolly party of twenty enjoyed a sleighride to the home of one of their classmates on Forest avenue east. The evening was spent with various games, carroms, cards, along with music, during which light refreshments were served. All too soon the evening passed, and a noisy crowd returned to town in time to greet the following day.

The Camera Club was entertained Thursday evening, March 8, by the Misses Bessie Goodrich and Mabel Flanders. A short business session was held, after which each member chose a picture and wrote a poem about it, a prize being given for the best poem. Mr. Goodale and Miss Lockard were the successful competitors. Other games were played and a general good time was enjoyed by all. Each as he departed wished that Misses Goodrich and Flanders would entertain the club again some time. At our next meeting a demonstrator from Detroit will be with us.

Another play is to be given under the auspices of the Oratorical Association sometime during the next semester. The name of the play is "A Night Off," a comedy in four acts. The following have been chosen as participants: Misses Harper, Stevenson, Jessie Johnson, Nesbitt, and Messrs. Lee, Stump, Goodale, Needham, Lawler and Mitchell.

The long looked for concert by the Normal chorus was given on the evening of March 6, under the direction of Prof. Pease. This is fast coming to be the great musical event of the season. It would be very difficult to say that this was worse or better than the others that have been given in the past few years. The work of the carefully trained chorus of 200 voices was perfect in every respect and they rendered Mendelsoln's "Hymn of Praise" in a manner most pleasing to all. The soloists were Miss Mabel Warner of Grand Rapids, a former student here, and Mr. Evan Williams, the great tenor of New York City. The orchestra was made up of the Philharmonic Club of Detroit, consisting of Messrs. Yunck, Summerfield, Paschke, and Abel. The second part of the program consisted of numbers by the Philharmonic Club and solos by Mr. Williams. In these especially Mr. Williams showed his wonderful voice, and completely won the favor of the audience. As a closing number, the chorus sang a spirited War Song and the beautiful piece "Wee Annie Alline." Altogether it was a pronounced success and the choir is to be congratulated on having such an able director as Prof. Pease.

The Zeta Phi sorority was entertained at the rooms of Miss Eileen Root, 311 Ellis street, Saturday evening, March 3. Two new members, Misses Laura Jenness and Pina LaRowe, were pledged into the sorority. Refreshments were served and the remainder of the evening was spent in social enjoyment.
OLYMPIC SOCIETY.

The Olympics enjoyed the heavy fall of snow and gave a sleighride last Friday evening, March 2. Two sleighs were crowded to their utmost capacity. After a drive around the town and into the country, we accepted an invitation of Mr. Warner to spend the remainder of the evening at his home. A variety of games were participated in, refreshments were served, and it was not until the small hours of the night that the Olympics bid farewell to Mr. Warner. All Olympics unite in expressing their thanks to Mr. Warner and his parents for the kind hospitality shown us.

CRESCENT SOCIETY.

March 9 the society met much refreshed by their outing and listened to an excellent musical program. It was voted to admit Mr. Barbour as a member, after which the society adjourned to meet again the first Friday of the spring quarter.

Friday, March 2, the Crescents took advantage of the abundant fall of snow to give a sleighride party. The members were accommodated in two sleighs and had a very enjoyable ride to Saline. There they were cordially welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Moore and most hospitably entertained. After a couple of hours spent in merrymaking, they bade their friends farewell and turned their faces homeward. Their arrival in Ypsilanti well illustrated the old song, “We Won’t Come Home till Morning.”

ATHENEUM SOCIETY.

Fifty-three happy Atheneums met in the society room at half past seven o’clock on this memorial evening, and were soon started on a seven mile sleighride, enlivened by a great deal of laughing, shouting and singing. About nine o’clock we arrived at the lovely home of Miss Alta Gill, who will be remembered by many as one of our most popular students last year. A very enjoyable evening followed. After the fore part of the evening had been spent in playing games, refreshments were served and a few musical numbers were given. The gracious hospitality of our kind hosts gave zest to every new enjoyment of the evening. Nothing was left undone that could add to our pleasure, and the three daughters of the household proved delightful entertainers. On starting away we closed a very pleasant evening by a cheer for Mr. and Mrs. Gill, which if the voices of the Atheneums had been equal to their heartfelt desires would have been heard from there to Ypsilanti.

The girls are working hard now, practicing for the contest to be given next semester for the new Showerman cup.

On March 3 the basketball team went to Lansing to meet the college team from M. A. C. “We met the enemy and we were theirs.” However, there were abundant reasons why we could not expect to win, and although we made desperate efforts they were well nigh useless. The floor of the armory on which the game was played was very smooth and perfectly waxed so that it was impossible to play our regular game. It was impossible to start to run on this “ice pond,” and moreover it gave numberless chances for fouling and progression. Furthermore, there was practically no umpiring and each side made any number of fouls which were allowed to pass without penalties. The game showed the best of spirit throughout, and after it each college gave a good rousing yell, which showed their friendly feeling toward each other.

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, a great deal of important business was transacted. The director from the Normal was unable to attend and Prof. Bowen
was sent in his stead. Perhaps the most noteworthy item agreed upon was the decision to admit Adrian College to the association for at least the current year. Adrian is not to contest in baseball, tennis or wrestling, and of course bears only her share of expenses. This makes seven colleges in the league, Albion, Olivet, Kalamazoo, Hillsdale, M. A. C., Adrian and Ypsi. It was decided to drop the tandem race and the all around contest from the list of events. What was more and perhaps worse for Ypsi was that the majority voted to exclude ladies from competing for the beautiful class club swinging cup which is now in our possession. Another important decision was that the field day should be held June 1st and 2nd, at Lansing. M. A. C. bid $160 as a bonus, and agreed to furnish a place for all indoor and outdoor entertainments, all necessary apparatus and free entertainment for all visiting ladies. Ypsilanti would like to have had the field day here this year, but we could not see the way clear. Something of an innovation was introduced in the plan of the baseball schedule, which is soon to begin. Each manager must make out a written contract with the manager of the opposing team, guaranteeing to play the game and pay the required expenses. It was also decreed that each college should before field day play with each of three other colleges two games on the percentage plan, the selection of competing teams to be made by lot. The teams having the three highest percentages will play at field day, the second and third to play and the first to play the winner between the second and third. The winner of this last contest wins the cup. Kalamazoo has won it two years in succession, and if they win it this year it is theirs for good. Let us remember that our baseball team finished second in the race last year, and we were only beaten by Kalamazoo in the afternoon after we had beaten M. A. C. in the forenoon. By drawing lots the following teams are to play as follows:

Albion plays Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, Ypsilanti
Olivet plays Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, Ypsilanti.
M. A. C. plays Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, Ypsilanti.
Hillsdale plays Albion, Olivet, M. A. C.
Kalamazoo plays Albion, Olivet, M. A. C.
Ypsilanti plays Albion, Olivet, M. A. C.
Dates are now being arranged with the colleges, and the baseball season will be in about a month.

Y. W. C. A.

The strong talks given by different members of the faculty this year have been of inestimable benefit to the association. The most recent ones were given by Prof. Strong and Miss Mann.

On Wednesday evening, March 7, occurred the annual business meeting. Reports of the year's work were given by the chairmen of the various committees. There are now one hundred forty-nine members, more than double the membership of last year. An interesting item in the report of the missionary committee was the organization of the Student's Volunteer band. At present there are eight in the band, four of whom have volunteered for the foreign service within the year. The following officers were elected:

President—Helen Elgie.
Vice-president—Bertha VanRiper.
Recording Secretary—Hazel Hale.
Corresponding Secretary—Elsie Cole.
Treasurer—Myrtle Filkins.

Mock Congress.

Feb. 24. House called to order with Speaker Butler presiding. The usual routine business was disposed of and the Sherman Bill was discussed for a few minutes and the remaining section voted upon and rejected. A resolution relating to the government construction and control of the Nicaraguan Canal was introduced, and a short discussion followed. A tariff bill relating to free trade
with Porto Rico and a resolution favoring the recognition of the Boer Republic was introduced and the House adjourned.

March 3. In the absence of Speaker Butler, Vice-speaker Edwards presided. The Nicaraguan Canal resolution was taken up for discussion. An exciting debate followed, which was participated in by Dann, Chapman, Cameron and Kendall. A vote was taken and the resolution adopted. The House then adjourned.

**Phi Delta Pi.**

The Phi Delta Pi fraternity held its regular meeting at the Savery Club on the evening of March 3. During the evening two new candidates, Messrs. J. H. Kempster and M. E. Dick were initiated into the mysteries of the organization. After an important business meeting the fraternity of now twenty-one members did justice to a good supper, and afterwards responded to some excellent toasts which were assigned by Mr. E. C. Harner, the toastmaster for the evening. The fraternity was never more progressive than it is this year, and its large membership assures success for those who will be here next year.

**VISIT OF THE STATE FARMERS.**

One hundred twenty-five of the delegates to the Farmer's Institute at Ann Arbor paid a visit to the Normal March second. The party arrived in the city at 9:30 and for an hour an inspection was made of the training school and gymnasium. At 10:30 o'clock the visitors repaired to the chapel where the students and faculty were assembled to give them public welcome. Principal Lyman invited William Campbell to act as chairman, which duty he performed very ably. Among the speakers were ex-Senator Campbell, Mr. Watkins, E. A. Palmer, James Dunn, Mayor Allen and Prof. Julia A. King. The visiting speakers were unanimous in expressing the heartiest good will toward the Normal and the manner in which it is conducted. They were almost all of them former students at this institution, and thus a good deal of the speaking was of a reminiscent vein. The choir rendered several selections, and Harold Spencer sang Kipling's "Hymn before Action." To both the strangers and the students the visit was a very pleasant one.

**"THE WEATHER REPORT."**

The annual equinoctial storm of examinations centered over Michigan was approaching Ypsi from all quarters when last heard of, and it is believed that they will be very violent and last for some days. The latest prophecy is that the German winds will strike here about Wednesday morning and continue until noon, when there will be a great change in temperature with a drop of the mercury to below "freeze out" point. Thursday will be generally fair owing to the fact that we are excused from a final "exam" in physiology. Some slight earthquakes will be felt owing to disturbances of the previous days, and it is believed that by night Thursday we will hear of several fatal consequences of blunders made the day before.

On Friday the geography part of the storm will strike us. This will probably do considerable damage and all are warned to prepare for it. There may be a small Latin whirlwind on Saturday morning, but it will hardly be noticed in the midst of the great storm. The atmosphere will probably be clearer on Saturday afternoon, and will be followed by a week or so of fine weather.

X. Y. Z.

**M. S. N. C. Weather Bureau.**

College maiden, here we part
Give me back—no, not my heart,
But my Frat pin and that ring,
Football picture, everything
That I bought and gave to you
When our college love was new.

( et cetera, ad infinitum.)

—Ex.

First Freek—I hear you’re a great collector of curios.
Don’t Use Glasses

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