1903

Normal College News, December 5, 1903

Eastern Michigan University

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'Let me go where'er I will,
I hear a sky-born music still.
It is not only in the rose,
It is not only in a bird,
Not only when the rainbow glows,
Nor in the song of woman heard;
But in the darkest, meanest things,
There always, always, something sings.'

—Emerson

The Debating Outlook

Go, Normals, go! is the war cry. Last Thursday evening occurred the last of the preliminary debates for the year. Nine contestants entered—the largest number ever taking part in a preliminary in the Normal. As the time for the final debate approaches, interest increases and the indications are that a strong team will be chosen.

There is a very keen rivalry among the clubs and societies for the honor of holding the debating cup during the ensuing year. For two years the cup has been held by the Lincoln debating club and the club is making strenuous efforts to carry it once more into camp. Each society has the privilege of sending at least one contestant into the final debate and as many more as may succeed in getting places through the debate of the school at large. Each contestant in the final wins a certain number of points according to the ranking he receives, and the society receiving the highest number of points takes the cup.

(Continued on page 21)

The Educative Value of the Study of Language

The educative value of the study of language is most clearly seen from the definition of the word itself,—a means of expressing our ideas and thoughts. Words represent ideas; language gives expression to thoughts, so that when we are studying language we are studying ideas and thoughts in concrete form, and are consequently learning to think. In our faculty meetings lately we have been considering introspection,—the power of the mind to look within and discover the processes of its own activity. It is an abstract and difficult subject. But language is this mind-process made objective; it is, as one writer puts it, "the nearest we come, perhaps, to giving the abstract a concrete form."

Now the educative value to the mind of this particular kind of activity, that is the process of finding language to express thought, can scarcely be overestimated, and I have read nothing in recent years that states it so impressively as Helen
Kellar's account of her early experiences with her teacher, Miss Sullivan. It will be remembered that Helen Kellar was blind, and deaf, and dumb, when her teacher came. Nothing can be more pathetic than her misery, her bitterness of spirit, and her rebellion, as she found herself shut off from all the rest of the world. Putting her fingers upon the lips of people when they talked, she noticed that they did not use signs as she did when they wanted anything done, but talked with their mouths. Stepping back she moved her own lips and gesticulated frantically, but "without result." The desire to express herself grew upon her, and her failure to make herself understood was invariably followed by an outburst of passion. "After a while," she says, "the need of some means of communication became so urgent that these outbursts occurred daily, and sometimes hourly. It seems as if the child might have become insane if relief had not been at hand.

Just at this time Miss Sullivan comes, and the process of learning language, and the result upon the child's mind furnish an impressive pedagogic illustration of the educative value of language study. Let us note both process and result. For several weeks Miss Sullivan sought to impress upon her pupil's mind that every object has a name. Dolls, pins, caps, etc., were used, but without avail. Finally at the well-curb one day she places the child's hand under the water-spout, and as the cool water flows over one hand she quickly spells into the other the word, water. It seems almost a tragic moment, as if the destiny of a soul hung upon the issue. "I stood still," says Helen Kellar, "my whole attention fixed upon the motions of her fingers. Suddenly I felt a misty consciousness of something forgotten—a thrill of returning thought; and somehow the mystery of language was revealed to me. I knew then that water meant the wonderful cool something that was flowing over my hand. That living word awakened my soul, gave it light, hope, joy, set it free."

Every object, she tells us, seemed to quiver with life, for it had a name, and with every new name came the birth of a new thought. Gradually the idea of abstract words, such as think, and love, was grasped. Then came reading, and of this she says: "Whatever the process, the result is wonderful." And surely the result, in her case has been wonderful, for at the age of about twenty-three years she has nearly completed her course at Harvard College, and in many respects her scholarship has been brilliant.

What process of mental activity illuminated this darkened mind, set this imprisoned soul free? She says herself that it was the acquisition of language, the gradual expression of her thoughts in words and sentences. What is the inference? Simply this, it seems to me: that the difference between Helen Kellar and ourselves is a difference of degree only. Whenever we have a thought that we cannot express we are to that extent dumb, our minds are to that extent cramped, our soul imprisoned. We find the word to express our idea, the language to express our thought, to express it exactly, to say just what we mean,—by the process we have released the mind, we have illuminated it, we have set the soul free. This, I take it, is the high claim to be made for the educative value of language study.

In conclusion it should be said that the study of the language of literature furnishes a more liberal culture for the mind than the study of the language of any particular subject, such as mathematics, or science, and finally, that in the field of literature, the language of the mother tongue is the supreme instrument of education. "Words," says Mr. S. S. Lounie, "must be steeped in life to be living, and it is around the language learned at the mother's knee that the whole life of feeling, emotion, thought, gathers."
GROWTH OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

The latest report of Superintendent Hall shows a most marvelous growth in the educational system of Michigan. Glancing back to fifty years ago, it seems barely conceivable that the current expenses of the University were only $11,289, that there were only seven professors and instructors in charge, and that eighty-four students comprised the total attendance. The average annual disbursements of the University at present, according to statistics, are about $500,000. The faculty numbers two hundred and sixty-two, and the student attendance is well above the four thousand mark.

In comparison with the above we might well notice the progress of our own institution. It was the first Normal school west of the Alleghenies. Common schools were few and scattered and not even in Detroit was there a high school. The original Normal School building was a plain three-story structure, 56x102 feet, erected in 1852 at a cost of $15,200. The average enrollment down to 1860 was 297, and the original number of instructors was five. That was in the formative period of educational life of Michigan. We now have some of the most beautiful and commodious college buildings in the country. Our new science building alone was erected at a cost of $45,000. There are 53 members on our faculty and our total attendance last year, including the Training School, was 1,850.

No contrast of conditions is more interesting than that of the common schools. In 1853 the school census reported 118,272 children of school age, while in 1902 the number was 738,184. The primary money apportioned among the various counties in 1853 amounted to a per capita distribution of 33 cents. In 1902 the amount apportioned was $2.62 per capita. The number of high schools has increased from none forty-three years ago to 502 at present.

A ONE-LEGGED CRANE

Currado, a gentleman of Florence, was out with a hawking party one day and his hawk captured a fine, large crane. He gave the bird to the boy in attendance saying, "Take this to the cook and tell him there will be guests at dinner and I want this well prepared."

Now Currado was very fond of roasted crane and knew that Masco, his cook, could prepare it well. He was also particular about the appearance of his table and knew the crane would make an attractive addition. When Marco received the crane and the message from the boy he at once set about his preparations for an elaborated dinner. The afternoon passed quickly; soon the dinner hour arrived; the guests had assembled and Marco was just lifting from the oven, the crane, done to a turn and beautifully browned, when his friend, the cook, in a neighboring house, entered. Seeing the bird, he said, "Ho, my friend, what have we here? A crane? Upon my word the savory odor doth please me well and methinks the taste would be even better. But I doubt if it tastes as well as the one I prepared for my master but yesterday. You have used your herbs over freely."

"Much you know about cooking crane," replied Currado's servant testily.

"Here, let this be proof of my superiority in that line."

So saying he hastily cut off a leg from the fowl and gave it to his friend who, chuckling at the success of his bantering remarks, ate it and grudgingly pronounced it at least as good as the one of his own preparation. But Marco was not listening to his friend's praise. He was ruefully surveying the mutilated bird and wondering what his master would say when it was placed before him. His friend told him to put on a bold face and he would easily get out of the difficulty.

When the crane was placed before Currado he viewed it with surprise and rising
anger. "How does it come about," said he, "that this fowl is sent to the table in this condition? Tell Marco I wish to see him at once." The guests were greatly amused at the appearance of the bird, but fearing to further annoy their host, said nothing. Marco was very much alarmed at the summons from his master, but reassured by his friend, composed himself and walked unconcernedly into his master's presence. "What does this mean?" demanded Currado, pointing toward the crane. "That, sir," replied Marco, with well feigned surprise, "is the crane you sent me to be prepared for dinner."

"So I believe," retorted his master, "but what has become of the other leg?"

"The other leg?" repeated the cook, "surely, sir, you are aware that a crane has but one leg!"

The guests laughed merrily at the ingenious reply, but their host frowned angrily. "Very well," said he, "in the morning you shall go with me and find a one-legged crane, and if you fail you shall be well punished for this piece of impertinence.

In the morning they set off accompanied by some of the guests. Currado still somewhat angry; and the cook trembling with fear and trying to invent a way to escape the flogging but striving to hide his real emotions by walking briskly along with head erect and answering readily whenever he was spoken to. A short distance outside the city, they saw some cranes in a field. They were resting after a long flight and, as their custom is, standing on one leg. They evidently did not observe the approach of the party. When they were quite near the cook cautiously whispered, "There, master, you can see that those cranes have but one leg." A stick broke under Currado's foot and the startled bird flew away before he could reply. "We were not near enough to be sure," said he. "We must have better proof," so they passed on. At the next peasant's home they saw a small boy playing with a pet crane. "Ah, here will be proof!" cried the master, while the servant, now wholly in despair, trembled. They approached the boy and Currado said, "My lad, may I take your crane for a moment?" The lad came forward and placed the crane into Currado's hands. He turned triumphantly to his frightened servant. "Now count this crane's legs," he said. The servant stepped slowly forward, placed his hand on the bird, when the boy spoke: "Please sir, my crane has only one leg; he was—" but the rest was drowned in the guests' laugh at Currado's expense. His anger vanished and he laughed with the rest. Turning to the cook, he said, "Hereafter I will count the legs of cranes before I send them to the kitchen."

The above story was written for the rhetoric class. The first part of the fable was read to the pupils, and the same was reproduced and an original ending made by the writer.

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**ON THE NEGRO QUESTION**

The following new reference matter on the Negro Question has been added to the library:

Garner—Reconstruction in Mississippi.

Riley—School History of Mississippi. (Contains state constitution as amended.)

South Atlantic Quarterly for October. (Contains six excellent articles.)

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One of the most interesting and valuable gifts ever presented to the Normal College was the large carbon photograph of Vander Helst's Banquet of the Civic Guard, now hanging in the front hall. An appreciation of this fine picture by La Farge, accompanied by a good reproduction, will be found in the last number of McClure's, page 151. The picture was the gift of the class of 1900.
The Normal College News

Published Weekly
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HEADS OF THE SONNY TAG LABEL AND BOXES.

This Number Edited by Robert Reinhold

The December magazine number of the News will contain as a supplement a picture of the Normal College football team. In the meantime we will give a brief sketch of each of the group, so that all our Normal friends everywhere may share the acquaintance of the men who brought honor to the white and green. Though lovers of the game they did not play for sport alone. They played for the Normal College. Athletics has become an indispensable factor in the success of every college. But the severe strain of longcontinued strenuous practice is no sinecure. It means sacrifice. These men responded to the call because our College needed them. For her they played, and it was that devoted spirit of loyalty that made the team what it was—good students, fierce fighters, and always gentlemen. When played in that spirit football develops every trait of manly character and we may well do honor to our heroes of the gridiron.

The people who voluntarily miss chapel these days are to be pitied. On Wednesday during chapel hour, at least a dozen of these vagrants littered about the upper corridors with that woe-begone look which betokens either a lack of profitable employment, or a deplorable voidness of healthy human interest. We rejoice, however, that they were few and far between. The man or woman who, for an hour, can stand indifferent among a thousand others bound together by a common tie and a common purpose, who can look unmoved upon gray-haired men and women whose faces bear the time-pressed stamp of consecrated devotion to duty, who can listen unuplifted to the words of God and the strains of holy music, who does not feel a thrill of inspiration bounding joyously through his entire frame, at the grandeur of it all; that person lacks something in his make-up that forever disqualifies him for the sacred trust of teacher.

Beginning with last Wednesday a part of every chapel hour will be devoted to one of a series of talks from the faculty. The plan is that each head of department shall speak on the special value of the work of that department. For the benefit of our many readers who cannot be present at these talks, the News will give a brief review of each.

Many pleasant letters are received from old friends. From the depths of our hearts we thank them. This editing is a hard life. As one of our exchanges puts it, 'The managers get the experience, the editors the blame, and the printers the money—if there is any.' Those gladsome words of cheer lighten many a burden as we sit in our lonely sanctum vainly contemplating on the stern realities that confront us. Later, when we have done burning the oil of early dawn in a last frantic attempt to master the headlines of the morrow's lesson, we fervently pray for a blessing on all who have cheered us on our weary way.
Prize Announcement for High School Students

The NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS offers a cash prize of FIVE DOLLARS for the best short story submitted under the following conditions:

CONDITIONS
1. The contest is open only to students in the high schools of Michigan.
2. The story must not be less than 800 nor more than 1200 words in length.
3. All stories must be submitted before January 5th, 1904.
4. The NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS is to have the privilege of publishing all stories submitted. A year's subscription to the NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS will be sent to the writers of all stories so published.

SUGGESTIONS
Do not write your name on the manuscript. Use a nom de plume.
On a slip of paper write your name and address and nom de plume, place in an envelope, seal and mail to the NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS the same day that you send your manuscript. In this way the judges will be prevented from knowing whose story they are judging and absolute fairness will be secured.
The names of the judges will be announced later.

THE NORMAL CALENDAR
Hold! Attention! Have you heard of the 1904 Normal calendar? It's new, it's natty, it's nobby—just the thing for a college souvenir. Just the thing for Xmas presents. You will want one yourself. Your friends will enjoy one. Save your last dollar for a supply of Normal calendars. They will soon be out. Watch the bulletin boards for their arrival.

GEOGRAPHY CONFERENCE
Dec. 11, 1903, Room 21, 7 to 8 p.m.
Mrs. Comptou, The geography of roads.
Miss Adams, Brigham's Influence of geography on American history.
Mr. Washburne, Humidifying indoor air.
Professor Jefferson, Hatcher's Exploration of Patagonia.

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

The Atheneum carried out the following program Friday evening:—Music, society; devotional exercises; recitation, Miss Steere; instrumental solo, Miss Casher; select reading, Miss Doench; vocal solo, Miss Willetts; reading, Miss Royce. Recess. Vocal solo, Miss Goodwin; reading from "Snowbound," Miss McKenzie, assisted by seven characters; Needs of the Society, members.

Mr. Reinhold and Mr. Andress will represent the society in the Oratorical contest. As this was the final meeting of the quarter, the election of officers took place.

The following program was rendered by the Crescent Society on the evening of Friday, Dec. 4:—Music, society; devotional exercises; music, society; reading, Miss Holmes; essay, Mrs. Pitman; piano solo, Miss McCormack; oratorical contest, contestants—Miss Helm, Miss Sackett, Mr. Herald. Intermission. Music, society; reading, Miss Gelman; recitation, Miss Eagle; music, society; recitation, Miss Merritt; prophecy, Miss Pomeroy; recitation, Miss Paton; vocal solo, Miss Nella Halladay.

SORORITIES AND FRATERNITIES

The Pi Kappa Sigma sorority gave a party at the Country Club Friday, Nov. 20, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Guy Bates, one of the most active members of the Kappa Phi Alpha fraternity, will leave college at Christmas to assume the principalship of one of the ward schools at Delray.

The Kappi Phi Alpha fraternity regret the loss of Hugh Osborne, who leaves school because of the illness of his father, and also the loss of W. O. Kennedy, who is obliged to rest from his studies on account of ill-health. It is hoped they will both return later.

Statement

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The Alpha Sigma Tau sorority met at the home of Miss Pearce Thursday evening.

Miss Frances Clapp is pledged to the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority.

The Kappa Psi sorority of the Conservatory spent a delightful evening at the home of Miss Clyde E. Dosler on Huron St., Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Miss Louise Stellwagen and Miss Elizabeth Broughton are newly pledged members to the Kappa Psi sorority.

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
Y. M. C. A.

Sunday, Dec. 6th, will be devoted to a Missionary Meeting. Much interest is taken in this work of missions by all members of the association and a large attendance of the college young men is desired.

The Y. M. C. A. has at present a membership of sixty, which speaks favorably for the progress of the associations. Many more new names will be added to our list in the near future, as the young men of today are realizing the benefits to be obtained by contact with fellow-workers in the Master’s service.

Y. W. C. A.

A very helpful feature of the association work is the twenty-minute prayer service held at 5 o’clock on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The average attendance has been good and the meetings are a source of inspiration.

The Missionary Reading Club, under the leadership of Miss Eagle, will hold its meeting at Starkweather Hall, at 6:30 Saturday evening.

The meeting on Sunday, Dec. 6, will be addressed by Dr. S. E. Niude, of Ann Arbor. He will speak on the subject, ‘The Supreme Question.’ Dr. Niude is a strong, sympathetic speaker, and this meeting promises to be one of special significance. All young women are invited.

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To Students at
The Michigan State
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During the last few years we have located many graduates of the Normal and have also placed a number who have not completed the course. Our dealings with the Normal people have been very satisfactory to us, and we believe we have been helpful to many who were seeking positions. That our work is appreciated by employing boards is evidenced by the large number of calls we have for teachers. Our situation at the present time is simply this: many calls for teachers, few candidates. Now we want you people to enroll and as an inducement, offer PREMIER REGISTRATION to Normal Students until January 1st, 1904.

Send postal for BLANKS to

Lewis Teachers’ Agency
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LOCALS AND PERSONALS
Miss Grace Allen visited Miss Addie Shaw over Thanksgiving.
Miss White spent her Thanksgiving vacation at her home in Otsego.
Miss Viva Stapleton spent her Thanksgiving vacation at her home in Ovid.
Miss Lou Young expects to teach in Northville after the Christmas holidays.
Miss Lulu Gallup, a former Normal student, called on old friends Thanksgiving Day.
Miss Ida Kinsel has been entertaining her sister, of Ithaca, Michigan, for a few days.
Misses Anna Leland and Allura Rudd visited friends in the College Friday and Saturday.
Miss Ethel Robinson, of Albion, has been spending a few days with Miss Harriet Mudge.
Messrs. R. E. Allen and Frank Pierce spent the Thanksgiving holidays at their home in Oxford.
Miss Mabel Spaulding, of Kalamazoo, spent the Thanksgiving vacation with Miss Grace Zagelmeir.
A fine new piano to rent by the hour, at 811 Ellis St., across from the Gym. Also one to rent out.
If you want to secure a position to teach write to James F. McCullough, 639 Fine Arts Building, Chicago.
Mrs. J. T. Abbot, of Ovid, spent Thanksgiving with her daughters, the Misses Anna and Grace Abbot.
Miss Hazel Harding entertained Miss Monteith and Miss Ethel Crandall during the Thanksgiving vacation. Miss Crandall is a former student of the Conservatory.
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G. A. HERRICK, Prop.
Miss Pearce spent her vacation in Detroit.
Miss Vera Camp spent Sunday in Detroit.
Miss Gail Hinsliff visited friends in Detroit last week.
Miss Sturt has been absent from the office this week on account of illness.
Miss Frances Jilek visited Detroit and Ann Arbor friends during the vacation.
President Jones and Miss Edith Jones spent a part of last week in Cleveland.
Miss Smith visited her sister, Miss Myrtle Smith, here over Thanksgiving Day.
Miss Edith Whitcomb was called home the first of last week by the death of her brother.
Miss Iva Zimmer, a graduate of the Normal, spent Thanksgiving with Genic Meredith.
Miss Plunkett spent Friday and Saturday of last week at Sanilac Center, doing institute work.
Owen F. Cassill, of the summer schools of the last three years, is now attending Chicago University.
Miss Sue Nekervis and Besse James spent the Thanksgiving vacation with Miss Willow Skiffington of Detroit.
Miss Lucy Brown, '03, of Detroit, spent Thanksgiving in Chicago as the guest of Misses Mary Steagall and Zella Starks.
Miss Natalie Yonkers, '03, who is teaching in the Grand Rapids schools, came Thursday evening to visit Ypsilanti friends.
Progressive "Mum Jew" proved a fascinating game at a gathering given by Miss Foster to the Training School Faculty, Friday evening, Nov. 27. Miss Wise won the head prize. Delicious refreshments were served.

MARRIAGES

Miss Harriet Baker, '03, and Mr. John Norton, of Carson City, surprised their friends by being married at Jackson on Thanksgiving Day.
Miss Fannie Cronk, '04, of Bellevue, and Mr. Carl Lockwood were married Saturday, Nov. 28, at South Lyon, where they will make their future home. Mrs. Lockwood will be missed at the Normal by many friends.

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ATHLETICS

"Athletics will let up now." Not much! They have just nicely begun and they are going to move on like our old locomotive yell. The season of indoor work is at hand, and in that line too, there are going to be a few surprises this year.

Basketball is well under way. Practice has been going on for some time. At the first meeting in the gymnasium Wednesday, thirty men were present. The number to be admitted to practice will be limited to twenty-five, so that regular systematic work may be done. Professor Bowen has made basketball a study for many years, and will himself teach the men. He is an expert coach, and the very first words of his opening talk were pointers that made the men feel confident.

The schedule thus far arranged provides for games with Adrian and M. A. C., Albion and Detroit D. A. C. and Y. M. C. A. teams are arranging for dates with us. The University of Minnesota team, unbeaten for several years, and victor over Yale and other eastern colleges, is corresponding with the management for a game here, on their post-season trip east this year.

FROM ALBION

The Albion College Pleiad of December 2 contains an article describing the Albion-Hillsdale game at Hillsdale, November 21. To the friends of the Normal team there is something especially interesting and significant in this description. It will be remembered that Albion was an aspirant to intercollegiate championship honors, and played a tie-game with M. A. C.

After the Thanksgiving game Hillsdale's players were liberal in their praise of the Normal team and quite a number of them made remarks to the effect that our men hit the line far harder than Albion.—The Pleiad says: "In the first half Albion kicked off to Hillsdale. Duross (H.) carrying the ball back..."
twenty yards. Hillsdale then resorted to a series of line bucks and end runs until the ball was lost on a fumble on Albion's 25-yard line. Albion was held for downs and forced to punt. Both teams then put up a strong defense, the hall swerving backward and forward in the middle of the field." Again—"In the second half Hillsdale kicked off to Albion, immediately throwing them back for a loss and forcing them to punt. Hillsdale then carried the ball back forty yards and then was also forced to punt."

Now read the News' account of how the Normals outplayed the same team one week later. If there is anything that shows the wonderful progress of the Normal team this season, then surely it is in this unconscious tribute from the Pleiad when it says: "One thing is certain, Albion is a top-notcher."

**THE DEBATING OUTLOOK**

(Continued from page 1)

The contestants are now all chosen, and are, for the Athenaeum, Reuben Cranford; Crescent, R. H. Herold; Lincoln, Robert Reinhold; Olympic, J. W. Bolender; Webster, Wm. O'Connors. Those who entered the school at large debate on Thursday evening, were Misses Miller and Patou, and Messrs. McKay, Purkiss, Schoolcraft, Millikan, Worcester, Reed, Guy Smith, and Mowry.

The three chosen were Fred P. McKay of the Webster; Mabel G. Miller, Portia; J. L. Reed, Crescent.

The debaters are beginning to feel that they will have a difficult task before them in defeating M. A. C. The Agricultural College has gone into the struggle this year with unprecedented energy. With regular Anglo-Saxon pluck, the defeats which the Normals have given them in the past have only made them more determined to win. Early in the year they organized twelve debating teams and set them at work debating each week on the various phases of the negro question—the question which is to be discussed by the two colleges. Consequently the Normal debaters feel that they cannot afford to sleep on their laurels but must put forth greater efforts than ever.

**The Michigan State Normal College**

Has a Conservatory of Music, established to foster and maintain the musical interests of Michigan. This conservatory has long been recognized as one of the best in the country and has sent out many musical artists and teachers. It has at present a corps of fourteen instructors all of whom are specialists that have proved themselves not only artistic musicians but capable teachers.

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Commenting Sunday, November 8th, the Iron Mountain Route will inaugurate its Solid Through Fast Train Service between St. Louis and Hot Springs, Arkansas, Via Benton. The departing and arriving time at St. Louis and Hot Springs will be as follows:

Leaves 8.20 p.m. ST. LOUIS Arrives 7.35 a.m.

Arrives 8.00 a.m. HOT SPRINGS Leave 7.30 a.m.

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