We hail the month that brings the New Year's birth,
And lift our hearts in longing, ardent prayer.
Filled with aspiring hope, we almost dare
Believe life can be spotless, full of worth,
Pure as the mantle that now covers earth.
We resolutely put the old aside,
And fostering only noble, high desires,
Led by a hope that loftiest aims inspires.
We will to do those things that shall abide.

() youngest, fairest month of all the year!
Resolves inspired by thee shall good fruit bear.
We'll keep the faith that lifts above all care
And holds a bar against the cowardly fear,
And helps to make a heaven of life here

—J. L.

PRESIDENT JONES ON THE COMMITTEE OF ELEVEN

President Jones was absent from the college several days during last month attending a meeting of what is known as the "Committee of Eleven" of the National Educational Association. This committee has been at work for something over one year and expects to occupy at least two years more in the preparation of its report. The work is of a character that has never been undertaken by any National Educational Association committee hitherto, and bids fair to take rank with the work done by the somewhat celebrated Committee of Ten, and the scarcely less noted Committee of Fifteen. President Jones was also a member of the latter committee. The Committee of Eleven proposes to gather from authoritative sources a quite full account of the present experience and practice in elementary and secondary education throughout the United States. It will refer to such

(Continued on page 70)

THE MICHIGAN STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION A SUCCESS

The 51st session of the Michigan State Teachers' Association was called to order by President Pattengill at 2 p. m., Tuesday, Dec. 29. Good music, both instrumental and vocal, characterized the general sessions.

President Angell gave a very interesting account of education in the East when he was a young man. His recent bereavement and broad sympathy for every phase of the educational problem impelled all to listen with profound respect. He has been a wise, cautious and progressive educational leader in Michigan for more than a quarter of a century, and large is the debt of gratitude which the state in general and thousands of alumni in particular owe this Christian gentleman and scholarly president.

Col. French pleased all with his fine pictures and instructive lectures upon India and Alaska. They represented much time
spent in travel and much good taste in the selection of views.

President McLean of Iowa University, gave a strong paper upon the up-to-date topic,—“American and Educational Expansion.” It outlined the course of development over which we have passed and emphasized the needs of present and future. It was well delivered and well received.

The reception in the gymnasium was in every way worthy of the culture and progressiveness of the University Senate. It was greatly appreciated.

Professor S. D. Fess of University of Chicago, interested the general session, also the high school section with two earnest talks upon United States History. Several good ideas were introduced.

The symposium upon college themes by the presidents of the denominational colleges, was unique, interesting and amusing. These trusted leaders spoke wittily, and feelingly of their work and they received deserved applause.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, a graceful and forceful speaker, gave utterance to many convincing thoughts concerning our citizenship and its necessary qualifications, if true progress was to be made.

Miss Jessie L. Newlin of Chicago, in her three earnest and suggestive talks on Reading and Literature, emphasized the best ways to secure good reading and a love of literature which should continue throughout life.

Dr. C. O. Hoyt gave a very scholarly and thoughtful paper upon the “Theory of the Course of Study.” It indicated much research and a high grade of educational thinking, and was discussed quite fairly and suggestively by Principal D. B. Waldo of Marquette Normal school.

One of the most helpful features of the meeting was the report of the Committee of Seven upon a high school course for Michigan schools, which should unify the work and make it appear better proportioned in its true choice of subjects. When further discussed at next schoolmasters’ club in March, and printed with explanations and suggestions a little later, it will prove of great value to our schools and reflect credit upon the committee.

The section meetings were well attended and furnished strong programs. Public school drawing; Kindergarten subjects, such as music and sense training and manual training in its relation to school progress, were said to be very interesting and vitally related to the needs of the educational work in our state.

The social features of this meeting were many and valuable. Pleasant reunions, banquets and toasts, and good cheer on all sides enlivened and satisfied the loyal workers of Michigan’s school system.

President Pattegill dispatched business with alacrity, and kept the interest at high pitch.

Professor S. B. Laird of the Normal College, was elected president of the association for the coming year. The next meeting will be held at Lansing, 1904.

THE NORMAL REUNION AT THE STATE TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION

It was a success from start to finish. The banquet room at the Oyster Bay was full. There was an overflow meeting downstairs. Two hundred and seven Normal College alumni met and nearly shook each other’s arms off, and ate, laughed, talked, sang, told stories, and reminded each other of the old times. Our genial Tom Conlon was in his happiest mood and made an excellent toastmaster. The committee on arrangements had done excellent service in providing for the large number, and every student, alumnus and teacher present helped along with his enthusiastic loyalty.

This is the spirit which makes the Normal college a great institution. A loyal body of alumni teachers and students is better than an endowment. It is the one thing most essential to the greatest usefulness of the school, and the success of the school is reflected upon its graduates. Such reunions help us all. Let us have a better one next year.
Of all the actors in Vanity Fair, Becky Sharp is, to the greater number of us, the most interesting. She is a woman of great ability, possessing great intellectual power and an indomitable will, unhampered by any surplus of emotional qualities. Indeed, Becky is said to be utterly devoid of heart and conscience. If this be true, does she not merit our sympathy rather than our censure? But to a woman with such a spirit as Becky manifests, pity is most unwelcome.

The daughter of an artist and a French actress, her childhood was free from all restraint. She mingled with her father's friends and enjoyed her care-free existence. Imagine such a girl enduring an existence with Miss Pinkerton! A saint, which Becky certainly is not, might be excusable for developing unlovely traits of character in such an environment. Here, alone and unloved, she learned the lesson of deceit, in which art she so soon became an adept. Who is there but admires her spirit in dealing with Miss Pinkerton, even though one is rather shocked at her treatment of poor Miss Jemima?

If ambition is a fault, poor Becky is certainly faulty. Is she alone in her desire to secure social position? How she has bent all her energies, her tact, her wit, to this one end, which when attained, so soon slips from her grasp. We can not but admire the cleverness of her schemes, and sometimes find ourselves almost wishing she may be successful. We only laugh at the discomfiture of her victims, even though we have for them a kind of pity. She unblushingly holds up to our ridicule those who have treated her with the greatest of kindness, but to them she is all gratitude, adapting herself to their moods and desires, making herself each day more necessary to their comfort and happiness, until through some chance her deceit is discovered, and she is compelled to seek new fields to conquer.

Many of Becky's victories are due to her unswerving confidence in her own intellect as well as to her tact and perseverance. Had she allowed her intellect to be ruled by the heart of her husband, she might have accomplished her purpose in reconciling themselves to Miss Crawley.

We like her least when we think of her as a mother. It is impossible to understand how she can close her heart to her little boy and be so indifferent to him, finally learning to dislike him. Here her power of dissembling deserts her, and she finds herself unable to deceive either the boy or others into thinking that she loves him. As a mother, she is certainly a failure.

We can not expect, nor do we wish, that her life may end happily. "We may be pretty certain persons whom all the world treats ill, deserve entirely the treatment they get." Yet we do not wish her to meet a worse fate. Her punishment is not a punishment of conscience, because she has none. To an ambitious woman the failure of all her hopes is a just recompense, even though she is as wicked as Becky. Her trials do not make her bitter. At the last she is the same Becky, with a circle of friends around her, in whose eyes she is a much-abused woman. We can not believe her guilty of Joe Sedley's death, that would be too monstrous. She has many admirable characteristics, and had her intellect been used to a better purpose, she might have been loved and admired. I like to think that her character is the result of her early training, and that had she been given a fairer chance she would have been a woman worthy of our admiration.

A man has invented a chair that can be adjusted in 600 different positions. It is designed for the use of the student at Chapel.
N. E. A. COMMITTEE MEET

PRESIDENT L. H. JOKUS

The Normal College News has asked me to give a brief account of the work done at the recent meeting in St. Louis of the presidents of the different departments of the National Educational Association. While many of the details worked out at the meeting are not now of special interest except to those engaged in making up programs for the July meeting of the Association, certain general matters discussed and certain conclusions reached are of interest to all teachers and friends of education as indicating the general character of the coming meeting of the Association.

There are now eighteen sections or departments connected with the Association. The presidents of fourteen of these departments were present at this meeting. The president of the general Association, and the general secretary were present, and gave general direction to the discussions of the meeting.

It was decided to hold the Association meeting from July 5 to 9. There will be one meeting of the Association each day, occupying the forenoon. The afternoons will be given over to department meetings, so arranged that each department may have meetings on two of the four afternoons. The evenings will be left free.

The meetings of the general Association as well as those of all the departments will be held inside the exposition grounds. The beautiful new buildings of Washington University, which have not yet been occupied by that institution, have all been placed at the disposal of the National Educational Association for these meetings. This will prove a great convenience, making it possible for all meetings to be held near one another. It was agreed on all hands to make the meetings short and spirited, leaving large opportunity for teachers to study the educational exhibit as well as other features of the exposition. The presidents of the different departments were requested so far as possible to make the program of each department relate itself somewhat to the educational exhibit. In some cases eminent foreigners will be asked to explain the exhibits made by their countries. In every way the Association hopes to make the interest of the meeting center about the exposition. Incidentally we had excellent opportunity to see what preparation the so-called World’s Fair management is making for the greatest exposition that the world has ever seen.

The ground covered by the buildings is at least twice that covered by the buildings of the Columbian expositon at Chicago; while the buildings themselves are in perfect accord with the mammoth conception of the exposition as a whole. The educational exhibit of the exposition will be housed in a single building, for the first time in the history of expositions. This building alone has a space of seven acres on the ground floor.

AURORA OF 1904

The Aurora Board has been chosen as follows: Manager, S. E. Crawford; Editor-in-Chief, Thora Paulsen; Associate Editors, Amy Barriuger, Esther Hoare, Robert Reinhold, (junior member) Eber A. Burke.

The Aurora is the annual publication of the Normal College senior class. Heretofore it has always ranked among the best productions of its kind, and has reflected great credit upon the college. Every effort will be made to make the 1904 annual excel all the previous numbers. It will contain engravings of all the members of the faculty, of the seniors, and of the officers of all college organizations, and whatever tends to perpetuate pleasant memories of college days. The labor of producing such a work is great and the board earnestly desires the hearty cooperation of every student. If you are a senior or a post-graduate student, hand your photograph to the manager at the earliest possible moment, or make arrangements with him to do so soon.
ACTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON COURSES OF STUDY

The chief work of the State Normal College will always be, as it should be, the preparation of teachers for the grades and high schools, through its two-years' life certificate course for pupils who are graduates of high schools. But we believe there are other public school interests which it may serve without weakening its work in the life certificate course. Indeed, some of these interests, if well handled, will in the end strengthen and cherish the chief or central work of the institution.

One of these incidental or subsidiary interests which we believe the school should serve is that of the rural district school. None of the courses heretofore offered in the institution meets this need; because when a student has graduated from a high school and then attended the Normal College a year or more, better positions are at once open in graded schools. There must therefore be arranged a course open to persons of more limited scholarship, and which will require a briefer period in residence at the school to insure the return of such teachers to the rural schools. To supply this need we have arranged a course of elementary professional training that can be taken in two and a third years (or two years and two summer terms) by graduates of the eighth grade of the district schools; and which can be completed in one year by persons of more scholarship or of some experience in teaching. The certificate for this course is valid for three years in schools employing not more than two teachers; and is renewable for three years.

The graded school course requires 42 weeks of school work (i.e., one year of thirty-six weeks and one summer term of six weeks), for graduates of high schools, and correspondingly longer for those who come to us before they have graduated from high school. The certificate given for this course is valid for three years in graded schools below the tenth grade, and is renewable for three years.

This course is recommended for those only who must stop to teach before finishing the life certificate course. The five-year certificate heretofore given will not be issued after the current school year.

The two-year life certificate course for high school graduates is, as has already been said, the chief work of the institution. More than three-fourths of all students now in the institution are in this course. It is professional in the best sense, and prepares teachers for the graded and high schools of the state. The opportunity is given here to take the general course, fitting for graduate work, or take a specializing course fitting for special work in high schools. The certificate given is a life certificate, good in all schools of the state.

The three-years' course for high school graduates adds one more year of work to that required for the life certificate. The graduate from this course receives the degree bachelor of pedagogics (B. Pd.) in addition to the life certificate. It is hoped that many teachers of experience, who hold the life certificate, will return to the College and take the additional year required for this degree, and in this way prepare themselves especially for the principalships in the new county normal training schools to be established in the various counties of the state within the next few years. The College has a large number of students in this course for the current year.

The College has been empowered by legislative action to grant the degree A.B. to students who complete the four years of professional work in the institution beyond graduation from the high school. It is not the intention of the management to open this fourth year of work to any but students of special merit. A few picked students, who give evidence of becoming leaders in educational thought and work, will be given special attention by heads of departments, who will act as patrons of such special students. It is hoped in this way to graduate a few persons fitted for the higher posts in supervision.
"Inspiration," which appeared in the Thanksgiving number of the News. Miss Adams has also had experience on a college paper, and the College is very happy in securing so capable a young lady for so important a position.

There are but two classes of people that never make New Year's Resolutions, those who are so conceited that they do not feel the need of them, and those who have become discouraged in trying to reach the top.

The News would like to suggest three resolutions that all might make with profit:

I will be loyal to the Normal College and subscribe for the News, if I have not already done so.

I will pay my subscription fee to the News at once.

I will contribute liberally to the News of my bright and interesting thoughts.

Among the valuable and interesting articles that have appeared in the News during the last quarter, have been the clear practical papers on the Library by Miss Walton, which have called forth much commendation. When the series is completed it will be of great service to those interested in libraries, whether their own or the one connected with the school with which they are associated. The knowledge gained from these carefully prepared papers will help every Normal student in his reference work. They will be of great help to those who wish to write a catalogue for a library that has previously been uncatalogued. We know that the majority of the students are aware of this from the number of appreciative remarks heard and from the letters that have been received.

She—Have you been through algebra?
He—Yes, but it was in the night and I didn’t see much of the place.—Ex.
INDOOR ATHLETICS

The work in basketball is progressing nicely. Twenty-five men, divided into five teams, are enrolled for daily practice under the direct supervision of Professor Bowen. The work is now thoroughly systematized and the regular credit in physical training will be given for the tennis practice.

Of last year's team, Morris, Graham, and Hayward are again on the floor. These, together with Sprague, who was here in '02, and O'Brien who was here during the fall quarter of last year, are the first team. The second team is made up of W. B. Smith, Gibbs, Cooper, Burke, and John Thomas. The other three teams are all showing up well, and the new men look like excellent material.

It is too early to say just who will constitute the regular college team, but the one thing that seems certain is that Normal College basketball team is going to be a winner. The schedule is a hard one and includes the best teams in the state. As now arranged it provides for games as follows:—

- Detroit Y. M. C. A. at Ypsilanti, Jan. 16.
- Adrian College at Ypsilanti, Jan. 29.
- M. A. C. at Ypsilanti, Feb. 6.
- D. A. C. at Detroit, Feb. 13.
- Adrian College at Adrian, Feb. 19.
- D. A. C. at Ypsilanti, Feb. 27.
- M. A. C. at Lansing, March 5.

Professor—"How would you punctuate the sentence, 'Ethel, a girl of eighteen, walked down Main street.'"

Freshie—"I'd make a dash after Ethel."

"What prevents the ocean from overflowing the land?" asks the teacher.

"It's tied," came a shrill voice from the tail of the class.—Ex.

Some are born for great things
And some are born for small
And some—it isn't recorded
Why they were born at all.—Ex.

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LOCALS AND PERSONALS

Miss Adella Jackson visited in Tawas during vacation.

Miss Lynch spent the holidays at Herkimer, N. Y.

Miss Martiu spent her vacation at her home in Virginia.

Miss Allura Rudd visited friends at the Normal Wednesday.

Miss Tuttle spent her vacation at her home in New York.

Miss Zoe Kimball, of Alma, spent the vacation with Dr. and Mrs. Putnam.

Miss Elizabeth Lilly, '03, is very ill at Woodmere, where she has been teaching.

Miss Edith Mead, '03, spent part of the Christmas vacation with friends in St. Johns.

B. J. Rivett of Shepherd has been elected normal baseball manager to succeed Guy Bates.

Miss Mary Casler was unable to return to school this term on account of the serious illness of her mother.

Miss Edna Goheen, a former student of the Normal, has returned this quarter, to resume her studies in the Normal.

President Jones attended a meeting of the department presidents of the National Educational Association held at St. Louis, Mo.

The regular meetings were not held in Starkweather Hall this week, because of various improvements that are being made on the building.

Dr. T. P. Paton entertained his sister, Miss Annie Paton, during the holidays. She was formerly of the Modern Language Department of the Normal.

Mrs. Alice Putnam Kimball, who has been teaching in Grand Rapids, has been elected special instructor in charge of the county normal class of Wexford county at Cadillac.

The News regrets to lose from its staff Mr. A. J. Purkiss, who will not be in school the remainder of the year, hav-
ing been called to Colorado to attend some business interests which he has there.

Miss Abbie Roe spent her vacation at Harbor Springs.

Miss Mabel Whipple, of Novi, formerly of the Normal, was a guest at the home of E. M. Comstock Sunday.

Miss Katherine Closz, general secretary of Normal Y. W. C. A., spent the holidays at her home in Webster City, Iowa.

Miss Martha Warner, who graduated from the Normal in '95, and who is now teaching at Oxford College, O., visited Ypsilanti during the vacation.

Professor Majors has not met his classes this week, because of the severe illness of Mrs. Majors. Much sympathy is felt for them by all.

Ebin Wilson, formerly captain of the Normal football team and guard on Yost's whirlwind team at Ann Arbor, will next year coach the Alma College eleven. This year he has coached Wabash College in Indiana with much success.

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NOTICE

The News has found it necessary to change the manner of distributing papers and henceforth the papers will be left at the house without the name of the student, trusting that each student will aid us by looking after his own paper.

TWO MUSICAL TREATS

Henri Etn, the great violinist of Detroit, gives a violin concert at Normal Hall, Tuesday evening, Jan. 12. It will be a great treat to the students.

Wednesday at chapel the choir will give their quarterly concert, The Banner of St. George.
SORORITIES AND FRATERNITIES

Two of the Alpha Sigma Tau girls did not return this quarter, Misses Violet Brown and Ruby Hazen who is teaching at her home in Marine City.

The Alpha Sigma Tau sorority is saddened by the news of the death of Winifred Dingfelder in the Iroquois Theater disaster. Miss Dingfelder was the sister of Zaidie Dingfelder, one of last year's girls.

Misses Amy Barringer and Amy McGregor are wearing the Kappa Psi colors.

Miss Claribel Strang, a Kappa Psi, and Mr. E. Gooding were quietly married at her home on Cross St., Dec. 30.

Dr. Frank Loomis and Mrs. Loomis (née Duquette), of Grand Rapids, spent a day in Ypsilanti during the Christmas holidays—the guests of Miss Walton.

Miss Rudd surprised her Zeta Phi friends most pleasantly by spending Wednesday with them.

Miss Edith Hoops of Wayne and Miss Mary Harmon of Birmingham are pledged to the Sigma Nu Phi.

The Sigma Nu Phi sorority are glad to welcome back one of their old members, Miss Florence Dickesou.

A very delightful reception was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Hoyt Tuesday evening, Dec. 29, in honor of the Alumni members of the Phi Delta Pi fraternity.

The following guests of honor were present: Messrs. Wilson, Murray, Hull, Chapman and Cleppenger, of the U. of M.; Waldron, Carson City; Butler, Central Lake; Ellsworth, Harbor Beach; Churchhill, Detroit; M. E. Dick, Holland; Maybee, Mt. Pleasant; Clark, Holland; Gould, Kalamazoo.

V. W. C. A.

Starkweather Hall, which is undergoing general repairs on the interior, will be ready for use by Sunday.

We are glad to announce Mr. Tooze as speaker at the Bible Study rally to be held Sunday afternoon, Jan. 10, at 2:30 o'clock in Starkweather hall. Mr. Tooze

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is a strong Bible student and will have a message for us.

The work during the fall quarter has been marked by progress in every particular. The association has during the past three months enrolled 127 new members, as compared with 98 new members enrolled during the whole of last year.

Ladies in the Bible study course in the life of Paul, have found a most earnest and enthusiastic Normal class leader in Miss Buell, who has given her best service.

Every young woman in college who is not doing Bible study work, should plan to enter one of the new circles to be organized next quarter in “Studies in the Life of Paul, and in the Life of Christ.”

MARRIAGES

Miss Stella Zacharias, ’01, of Portland, was recently married to Mr. W. H. Beardslee, of Saginaw.

Mr. Cyrus Tremper, principal of the South Frankfort schools, was united in marriage on Christmas eve to Miss Edith Knights.

A very pretty wedding occurred in Ypsilanti New Year’s eve, when Miss Alta Bradley of this city and Dr. W. H. McNamara of Brighton were united in marriage at the home of the bride’s parents. After a short trip East the happy couple will be at home in Brighton.

Announcement cards have been received of the marriage of Miss Eleanor Porter, formerly of the Normal and Mr. E. E. Crook, who is superintendent of the New Baltimore schools, which took place at the bride’s home at River Forest, Ill. They will be at home at New Baltimore.

“Paw,” asked the little boy, “didn’t you say in your speech that you expected the map of the world to be changed soon?”

“I think I did,” said the orator.

“Then what is the use of my studying geography?”

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President Jones on the Committee of Eleven

(Continued from page 49)

questions as the courses of study in use, the time allotment of subjects in the curriculum, methods of examination and promotion of pupils, together with such other subjects as shall show themselves definitely related to these topics. It will thus be seen that it is a committee whose purpose is to find out present conditions, to tabulate results, and place them in such form that they may be studied to advantage. It is hoped that this sort of study will lay the basis for the formulation of the principles of education as exemplified at the present time in the school work of this country. It is not the purpose of the committee to have its members give their opinions on any subject; but rather to gather the actual experience of the teachers and school officials who are now carrying on the educational work of this country. It is believed that this experience, when properly formulated, will teach its own lessons—that it will point out definitely many defects in present practices and point the way to improvement in many fields.

Prize Stories

Many stories have been entered in the contest for the prize offered by the News. Miss Abigail Pearce, Miss Kate Thompson, and Mr. Isaiah Bowman, all members of the College Faculty, have been appointed judges to act on the same. It is expected that one of the stories will be published in the next issue of the News.

A fine new piano to rent by the hour, at 811 Ellis street, across from Gym. Also one to rent out.

Teacher—And what shall I call your name?
Student—?, the same as in the morning.
Teacher—Ah, yes. Glancing dubiously at the enrollment in his morning classes.

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