

Student Life, January 1903, Vol. 1, No. 3  
Transcribed by: Zachary Garrett

Page 3 of PDF

The Co-Operative Grocery & Drug Company will remove to their new store room on Center Street about the first of the year 1903 The Co-op. Grocery & Drug Co. .are the. Leading Grocers and Druggists of Logan. SPECIAL COURTESY TO STUDENTS. PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY COMPOUNDED. GOODS DELIVERED FREE. [???] TO 20 CENTRE STREET

Joseph Howell, President. OFFICE OF J. W Crawford, Manager. UNION MERCANTILE CO. THE "U. O." General Merchandise and Produce. News for Ladies. We are pleased to announce you in your valuable Magazine that we have been made sole agents for the Faultless Fitting Dorothy Dodd Shoes. News for Men. We have the Royal Blue line of Shoes for Men the best wearing shoes on earth. We appreciate your trade. UNION MERCANTILE CO., 51 and 52 MAIN ST , LOGAN, UTAH

Image caption: Louis Acrossett

Dunbar, Robsinson & Co. Clothing, Shoe and Funishing..... BEST GOODS FOR LEAST MONEY. 2 STORES---67 MAIN, & CENTRE ST.

MURDOCK'S CANDY KITCHEN. Manufacturers of Confectionery. Carries the LARGEST, CHOICEST AND PUREST VARIETIES OF CANDIES AND NUTS IN THE CITY, SPECIAL PRICES FOR HOLIDAYS. We carry a Full Line of Bakery Goods. 31 Main ST.

22 WEST CENTER STREET 22 WEST CENTER STREET LOGAN STEAM LAUNDRY Have your work done at home, done right and save express. C. A. CUMMINGS & COMPANY Proprietors.

Page 4 of PDF

[Image]

[Image]

STUDENT LIFE.  
JANUARY, 1903.

IN DARKER VEIN.  
Dey aint no use foh to heap abuse  
On youh brederin heah below;  
But my blood do bile at de monstrous pile  
Date de white folks thinks dey know.  
O' cose dey's lahned in de bigges' schools,  
An' live on de fat o' de lan':  
But dey's some things, sho, dat a brack man know,  
Date de white folks nevah can.

When de Lohd made man wif a culled skin,  
An' de big eyes gleamin' white,  
He punctuh de swohd o' de spirit in,  
An' let in de gospel light.  
De man he lif up a voice o' prayeh,  
An' praise he God all day;  
An dey aint no white man sence dat time  
Can pray like de brack man pray.

De beas' an' de birds come flockin' roun',  
An' chuckle an' sing wif glee,  
An' de brack man listen an' like de soun',  
In de shade o' de 'simmon tree;  
He set he tune to de song o' de woods,  
De time to de blue-jay's wing,  
An' dey aint no white man nowhah 'bouts  
Can sing like de brack man sing.

Still he 'joice in de lan' de good Lohd gib,  
In de sunshine an' de rain,  
In de cabin home whah de ol' folks lib,  
An' de little patch o' cane.  
Dat Nancy gal makes de sweetes' wife,-  
Her lips like de scenting' shrub,-  
An' dey aint no white man in de lan'  
Can lub like de brack man lub.

Dat brack man crawl whah de million sprawl  
In de sweet white light o' de moon;  
An' he's allus roun' when de tatah's brown  
In de juice o' de roasin' coon.  
He "chung" de strings when de day's took wings,  
An' he dance till he jes caint stan';-  
Oh, dey's some things, sho, dat a brack man know,  
Dat de white folks nevah can.

Page 5 of PDF

#### A TRIP TO THE LAND OPENING.

In the summer of 1901, Uncle Sam indulged in the lottery business, and many people especially from the southwest, took chances at his wheel. A large strip of land, formerly the reservation of the Kiowa and Comanche Indians, was being opened for settlement, and prospective homesteads were the prizes to be drawn. I was then only a few hours ride, by rail, from the land office. So, with a number of young men from the same village, I decided to take part in the drawing. At this time we were engaged in threshing, but a good soaking rain delayed the work and gave us the opportunity we desired. Early the next morning we were taken to the railroad station. As the railroad company had more business in the passenger traffic line than they could handle, they

had wisely decided not to run excursion rates. Their business was so heavy, in fact, that they did not attempt to move any freight at all during the "rush," but used both passenger and freight trains to carry passengers.

The train we boarded was already crowded, and several slightly intoxicated passengers were swaying about in the aisles imagining that they wished to fight. A party which sat immediately in front of me, consisted of a judge and some lawyers from Wichita, having what they evidently considered a "time," and the judge was showing the effects of liquor by behaving in a manner very unbecoming to his judicial dignity. The train traveled very slowly and stopped at each station, where it found many more home seekers awaiting passage.

Soon after leaving Caldwell, Kansas, we arrived in the "Strip" which was opened for settlement several years ago. Here, a few years before, the Indian grazed his ponies over the broad prairies; now it is a country of flourishing farms. Homes of settlers dotted the landscape and as far as the eye could see on all sides stretched fields of wheat.

Late in the night, we arrived in El Reno, Oklahoma Territory. A single glance at the surroundings told us that it was useless to look for hotel accommodations. On the platform of the station, as thick as they could comfortably lie, were large numbers of men and some women and children. Some cars were stand-on the side-track, with human beings stretched out on the roof, on the floor inside, and even on the cinders underneath. In the town, people were lying on doorsteps and porches and in the yards. Some enterprising persons fenced off portions of the side-walks and sold the privilege of sleeping in blankets on the stones.

After searching in vain for a better place, our party finally found a freight car which had no occupants, and retired for the night. Although we were very tired and sleepy, I do not think many of us secured much refreshing slumber that night. We rose early next morning, procured some coffee and sandwiches at one of the numerous lunch stands, and then went to register. We had a notary public write out our papers for us. These notaries, by the way, must have had a great deal of money during the period of registration, as they received twenty-five cents from each person and about two thousand persons registered.

The papers which were procured from the notary public, stated whether you wished to register in the Lawton or El Reno district-the two districts into which the country was divided for convenience in opening,-that you had given oath that you did not possess one hundred and sixty acres of land, and that you desired to take up the land for the purpose of farming. You then turned in your papers at the office. Your name, post office address, etc., were put in an envelope, and when the drawing commenced, the envelopes were put into

STUDENT LIFE.

a kind of wheel, which was turned to mix them thoroughly. The person whose name was in the envelope first drawn from the wheel had the first choice of about seven thousand quarter-sections of land. Thus it is seen that only the first seven thousand names could hope to draw a claim.

The privilege of registering was given to any one who was the supporter of a family and who was a citizen of the United States.

Under these provisions several boys and a great number of women were allowed to register. The second choice fell to a telephone-girl of Wichita, Kansas. When it became known that this girl had drawn the second prize, she was besieged by numerous proposals of marriage, receiving as high as thirty letters in one day.

The day we were in El Reno there were at least fifteen thousand people in the town. Hotels, restaurants, lunch-stands, and especially saloons, were doing a "land-office business" in reality. I saw one place, where the bar had an extension of about thirty feet built to it. This bar was said to have made for its owner a profit of four hundred dollars per day during the opening.

Even the churches were in the money making business. Cots were placed on the seats and the floors of the church building and each night these cots were filled with weary home seekers. The lights were left burning all night and the man in charge walked around with a large pistol in his belt to see that no thieving was going on.

The gamblers and confidence men were also busy, verifying the old statement that "a sucker is born every minute." Some of the gamblers paid fabulous prices for the privilege of running their business during the rush. They took in return, however, from five hundred to two thousand dollars daily.

It was impossible for the post-office force to handle the enormous amount of mail that came in. People had to stand in line all day to get their mail. This condition was afterward relieved by the government sending down a number of extra clerks. The great crowd represented all classes of people, from the wealthy man with his silk hat, and his eye open for a speculation, to the tattered negro from the southern states who hoped to get a home that he could call his own.

Having arrived in El Reno and being duly registered, our next thought was of returning home. This turned out to be a more serious difficulty than we at first imagined. People crowded the trains as they pulled in and we had the mortification of seeing two or three pull out before we could get aboard. We finally managed to get away, some of the party

hanging on the steps and platforms and some climbing to a more comfortable place on top of the coaches.

Owing to the great crowd on the trains, it was impossible to keep drinking water in the coaches. As it was very warm, many people suffered from thirst. At each stop, the men would run for the nearest saloon or the town pumps. At stations, small boys came to the train with bottled beer to sell and you could hear frequent yells from thirsty passengers for a "cold one."

On leaving a town in Oklahoma, a bull-dog attracted by the yells and commotion of the passengers, began a race with the train. Someone drew a revolver and fired at the dog. This shot was the signal for a fusillade, for revolvers began to crack from all parts of the train until it sounded as if a regiment of soldiers were at rifle practice. The bull-dog kept on in the race with distinctive "bull-doggedness" and strange to say was not hit, although bullets struck all around him.

At another station, were met by a delegation of colored ladies-the wives and daughters of shovelers in the coalshutes at that place-who had for sale chicken sandwiches, apple pies and coffee like "mother used to make." Their stock was soon gone and I do not remember tasting anything that seemed more delicious than their pie and coffee did on that day.

We passed many trains which were going to El Reno and all were crowded with passengers. In many cases, cattle-cars and freight-cars filled with people were in the train. As we were not expected back for two or three days, there was no conveyance at the station when we arrived. Tired and sleepy as we were, we

Page 44

STUDENT LIFE.

had to walk from the station to our home-a distance of thirteen miles. We finally made the distance, however, and felt glad that we were back from Oklahoma, probably forever. I, for one was not sorry when I learned that my chance was about seventy-nine thousandth.  
E. T. K.

A Midnight Surprise.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1898, the American army landed on the island of Luzon, a few miles south of the city of Manila. A series of outposts were "thrown out," forming a complete circle around Camp Dewey, to prevent surprise by the Spanish army. At the outpost facing Fort Malate, the most important Spanish position, the event herein described occurred. Fort Malate was held by a Spanish force of three thousand men, infantry and artillery combined, while in the city of Manila there was an additional force of about four thousand soldiers. Camp Dewey was

three miles from Fort Malate and there were, all told, only about three thousand five hundred American soldiers. The American outpost was only a mile from the Spanish position and two miles from Camp Dewey, so that the outpost was in constant danger of an attack.

The morning of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1898, dawned bright and clear in the Philippine Islands. Smiling nature seemed trying to infuse a little brightness into the lives of the sea-sick, discouraged American soldiers, who, having lived on Alger's "Fine Canned Roast Beef" for ten weeks, were not feeling as though life was "one grand sweet song." Slowly the hot tropical day came to a close. The sun sank to rest in all the brightness and glory of a tropical sunset. A few minutes later the sky became overcast with dark threatening clouds. The soldiers on duty at the outpost near Fort Malate, tired out with the day's work, lay down on the wet, muddy ground and were soon asleep, dreaming of their native land far across the Pacific Ocean.

As time passed, the sky became darker and more overcast with clouds. Soon it began to rain and steadily increased until there was a heavy downpour. The wind began to blow and rapidly increased in force, but the tired soldiers slept on. Suddenly the sharp crack of a rifle rang out above the storm. It was quickly followed by another and yet another until the cracking of rifles and the patter of bullets was like the patter of hail on an iron roof. Then a volley came whizzing over the heads of the sleeping American soldiers. In a few minutes the entire American outpost was under arms and sending deadly volleys into the ranks of the advancing foe. The artillery was waiting for permission to fire. To the dazed artillerymen the wind seemed to increase in its fury and the rain to fall faster and faster. But suddenly the quick, sharp tone of the bugle rang out the order, "Commence firing!"

Almost simultaneously with the order, the four American cannon rang out their deadly defiance to the Spanish army. The Spanish cannon's reply added to the awful din and roar of the battle. The shells came shrieking over the heads of the American and burst with a dull, sickening thud among our soldiers in the rear. The bursting of those shells struck terror to the souls of the bravest, and hearts that had not known fear before were stilled with awe. But as each scanned the face of his comrade, he saw only one thing written there, and that was to stand by the stars and stripes, which hung dripping above the trenches, or to give up his life in the attempt.

As the battle increased in its fury, the storm raged as only a turbulent typhoon in the Southern Seas can. The thunderbolts seemed to rend the sky in twain; the lurid flashes of lightning and the bursting shells made the place as light as day. The groans of the wounded and dying rose above the noise of the conflict.

The battle raged on, and the flashes of the opposing rifles seemed almost together. At this critical moment, word was passed along the American line that the ammunition along the American line that the

ammunition was running low; in fact, only a few rounds remained. Then the order was given to reserve these rounds for the foe as they came over the trenches. Despair had seized the hearts of the

Page 45

STUDENT LIFE.

Americans, when faintly, from far away in the rear, a sound was borne on the wind to the waiting soldiers. Could it be, or were they dreaming? they asked themselves. Yes, there it was again, louder and clearer this time above the cracking of the enemy's rifles and the dull roar of the cannon. It was the sweetest sound ever borne to the ears of the soldiers, for it was the clear, metallic note of a bugle giving commands to the reinforcements that were coming up at a "double quick," with a new supply of ammunition.

The soldiers of the outpost with one accord grasped their hats and gave three rousing American cheers. The advancing Spanish army heard the cheering, and, diving its cause, hesitated—and were lost. The reinforcements swung into the trenches and the volleys of the Krag-Jorgensens rang out on the night air. The Spanish rapidly retreated and in a few minutes the battle was over.

Where a short time before this awful conflict had raged, all was silent except for the groans of the wounded and dying. The fury of the storm abated and the typhoon passed on to the other side of the island and so on to the ocean. In a few hours the sun rose brightly, and all nature seems as smiling as it had the day before. Oh, but what a mockery it was to the living as they gazed on the faces of their fallen comrades who lay cold and stiff in pools of blood and water. In a short time the dead and wounded were removed to Camp Dewey and nothing remained but the scarred bark of the trees and the shattered walls of an old monastery nearby to show that anything unusual had occurred there the night before.

R. S, '02.

Special Training.

Owing to the fact that the great majority of farmers in Utah, today, are practicing almost the same methods in operating their farms as their farmers did, the farming industry, so important in this state, is suffering.

Altogether too many farmers are practicing general farming and attempting to cover the whole field of agriculture instead of selecting some one branch of the industry and making a specialty of it.

By special farming we mean the raising of such crops as will aid directly in furnishing a finished product for the market. For instance; a dairy farmer might make a specialty of the production of

milk and butter and raise a proper rotation of alfalfa, corn, grasses and such other forage as may be necessary for the proper support of the animals.

The great difficulty is that the general farmer attempts too much. He raises grain, potatoes, hogs, sheep, horses, cattle, chickens, all kinds of fruits, in fact everything that will grow in his section of the country. This was all right when there were no railroads or when the country was new and the people did not know what crops could be successfully grown and had to experiment in order to find out.

Competition is so keen in all branches of industry that the profit margins are usually narrow. The price of production must be kept down in order to allow the profits as wide a margin as is necessary to operate the business without loss.

A specialist reduces the cost of production in several ways. He becomes an expert in his particular line and applies his energy with more certainty and force. He has less capital invested in machinery and the extras which each line requires, therefore his capital is more available. He can better afford to buy for cash those things which he does not raise than to run the risk of raising them at a loss or at the expense of some other crop.

An important matter in connection with the profit of a crop is the marketing. Though it is just as important as the raising, it is a matter which is greatly neglected. A person must study his market and the things which control it. It is not possible to do this where you have a number of crops, to the same advantage as when you have one. Marketing requires time, and the more crops you have the more time will be spent in marketing. How much easier it is for the specialist to do his marketing. He has the advantage of quality, as his crop has reached a higher degree of excellence and is in demand on the market.

Page 46

STUDENT LIFE.

A specialist becomes known by the superiority of his product and gets the best price for it. It is the inferior product that crowds the markets and tends to lower the price. A person must give special attention to a crop or it is very likely to be inferior.

Then, too, there is the waste in connection with the production. There is always more or less that is not marketable, and the general farmer will have more of this class of goods by reason of his having so many crops.

General farming has a tendency to make a man like a "rolling stone." This year, potatoes or some other crop sells at a very high price and next year he spends his time cultivating potatoes. Several others do

the same thing and it results in a flooded market and a decline in price.

There is a great deal of difference between profit and income. A person may have an income of \$1,000 derived from a number of sources such as the sale of cattle, grain, hay, milk, fruit, etc., and there may be no profit in any of them owing to the cost of production. ON the other hand, an income of \$1,000 derived from a single source, where a man has concentrated his efforts, may show a very large profit.

A specialist keeps better track of his business and knows when he is making or losing, while the general farmer is likely to carry a dead-head crop without knowing it. Success in any business depends largely upon the management and perfection of details, and a person engaged in special farming has a far better opportunity to take care of and develop the details. Neglect of details will result in a partial or complete failure. They are neglected at the expense of the profits.

The fact that a person has a number of crops often causes him to push them only half way but this sort of business will never succeed.

The reason that most people practice general farming is the idea that some crop is apt to fail and they are sure of one crop succeeding. This idea is the cause of a great many failures. It shows a weakness and lack of faith. In the majority of cases men are to blame for the failure of a crop. It may not be through the lack of will power or energy but it is very often through lack of knowledge. Energy without knowledge is like steam escaping into the air.

Specialization has been one of the prominent features in the rapid development of all professions and sciences. If doctors had continued to cover the whole field of medicine, the medical profession would never have developed to its present stage. The same is true of all arts and sciences and it is reasonable to suppose that agriculture would have developed much more rapidly if specialization had been incorporated into it earlier in its history.

Farmers' Institutes.

For those who may not be fully acquainted with the aims and uses of Farmers' Institutes, it might be wise to give a brief history of their organization in this State and throughout the country at large.

It was in the early seventies that definite shape was first given to the organization, which was later known as the Farmers' Institute. Previous to this time there had been scattered local agricultural clubs which, in some cases, had been doing educational work. In these the present Farmers' Institute System may be said to have had its origin. In 1871, the Iowa Agricultural College sent out some of its professors to lecture to the farmers. A year later, Vermont and Michigan followed her example. However, Michigan was the first state in this country to authorize an educational institution to carry

instruction to farmers who were not students in the college. Year by year other states began to follow the example set, till now there is not a state in the union that has not some form or other of Farmers' Institute system. In nearly all cases the beginning came from the State Agricultural College, the work being organized and the lectures given by its professors.

In Utah, Farmers' Institutes were first organized in 1896. They began by virtue of an act of the State Legislature which authorized the faculty of the Agricultural College to hold Institutes for the instruction of the citizens of the State, in the various branches of agriculture. The course of instruction at such institutes

Page 10 of PDF

Image caption: UTAH SHEEP RANGE.

Page 11 of PDF

[Blank]

Page 47

STUDENT LIFE.

was to be arranged so as to present to those in attendance the results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical agriculture. In addition, it was to be the duty of those conducting institutes in any county of the State to encourage and assist in the organization of local agricultural societies. At the close of each season's work, a report was to be published for free distribution to the farmers of the State. This was to give the leading papers and addresses given at meetings and the discussions thereon. Fifteen hundred dollars was granted each year for the carrying on of this work.

By many advanced agricultural educators, throughout the country, it was felt that though the agricultural colleges and experiment stations were doing valuable work, yet under the most favorable circumstances, the colleges could reach but a very small percentage of those who were eligible as students, while through lack of being educated to appreciate their value, the agricultural population at large were getting very little from the published bulletins of the stations. Through careful work of skilled experimenters, the Stations had a great deal of valuable data and in every department of agricultural work had investigated principles and methods which if applied in field, orchard, and ranch throughout the land, would increase the farmer's capital, and augment the nation's resources by millions. But, while scientific investigators had found out advanced methods, the great mass of farmers were everywhere following methods that had been in use by their forefathers nearly a century ago. The pioneers had

started in with a virgin soil whose latent fertility gave abundant returns for culture however crude. But as generations passed by, with this crude treatment the soil yielded diminishing returns, till the farmer's lot became a hard one, and his life a round of more or less unrequited toil. Finally it was decided that the only practical way was for the professors of the Agricultural College to go out on missions through their respective states and carry the gospel of agriculture to the people.

Such a crusade was not accomplished without considerable prejudice, and that on the part of those it was intended to help. The farmers said, "What can these college professors who work in laboratories tell us about farming? We have worked on farms for years." Many of those who first attended the meetings, came out of curiosity; others, who smelled a political rat, even out of animosity. But the speakers were earnest men, who, braving prejudice and sarcasm, soon showed that they had something of value to impart. Honest endeavor is always successful. In this case, as a result, requests came from all over the country for meetings and speakers which the colleges could not begin to supply. This was the beginning of Farmers' Institutes: a case of college extension movement by which those who could not, or would not, come to college had to be reached.

In a very few years, the fruits of this systematic sowing were being reaped. It was not hard to notice that where institutes were being held agricultural methods were improving. Farmers were finding by the application of the scientific principles worked out in the laboratories and experimental plats of the stations, that the fertility of the soil could be kept up and even improved.

On all hands, the Institute was recognized as an educator, and the call came for definite, specific information in all lines, instead of the general work given in the beginning. This necessitated increased organization and an administrative head. The child was now becoming too large to be fostered under the care of the Agricultural Colleges and many states gave their institute systems to the control of a director, who devoted his whole time to advancing the work.

In order to get in closer touch with the needs of the farms, local organizations were formed. These had the privilege of informing the director of the special needs of their district, and of selecting speakers who were specialists in the branch of agriculture in which they were most interested. This opened up the way for the use of practical men who had made a success of any branch of agricultural work. Catalogues of speakers were made in the departments

of Agronomy, Live Stock, Horticulture, etc., and lists of subjects sent out from which the local societies could select according to their need. This specialization served the purpose of a college curriculum with optional courses. Some Institutes have even purchased libraries for the use of their members, and provide agricultural literatures as a premium of membership.

Thus the system has grown till it has become one of the nation's foremost educational institutions. This growth has been reflected by a steady increase in the appropriations towards its maintenance. IN 1891 these aggregated, in the United States, \$80,000; in 1899 they had more than doubled, being \$170,000; while no less than half-a-million farmers were enjoying the educational privileges. Last year the grants toward the Farmers' Institutes approximated \$200,000; while their range of instruction had extended to nearly three-quarters of a million farmers.

Phenomenal as this growth is, yet the maximum of usefulness of the Farmers' Institutes has not yet been reached. The 750,000 farmers reached by the Institute system is only 7½ percent of those engaged in agricultural pursuits in the country, while the 10,000 students entered in agricultural courses at our colleges do not constitute one percent of those who are eligible for instruction.

However, Institute meetings are giving the boys on the farm an insight into the mysteries of the soil, into the laws of plant growth, and into the wonderful possibilities of animal development. This is the only thing that can ever make boys stay on the farm, and make its work interesting and profitable to them. A little knowledge well imparted always gives a desire for more, and we find the Farmers' Institute system acting as a feeder for our Agricultural colleges.

It has been found that a very large percentage of the students entering Agricultural Colleges were induced to do so by attending Farmers' Institute meetings. It might be to the further benefit of both if Agricultural Colleges and Farmers' Institutes were more closely connected. Since it is impossible for college professors, on account of their classes, to give much time to Institute work, it might be a good plan to have meetings taken charge of throughout the State by the graduates of its own Agricultural College. This would increase the range of institute work and put the farmers in close touch with the work and thought of the colleges and experiment stations. At the same time it would be of great educative value to our students in broadening their experience along different practical lines of agricultural work.

What the future of Institute work and organization will be it is hard to say, but if the advancement keeps pace with what it has already accomplished, it will certainly be the great motive power in progressive agriculture.

Things Musical.

Wouldn't that blow you? What? Why, the College band, of course. Perhaps they do not make much noise but they are still in the ring and before the season is over we expect to hear more of them. Already, they are nearly on a par with Sousa's famous organization and are improving rapidly under Mr. Mitton's efficient leadership.

There are now seventeen pieces in the band, including a strong lead of cornets and a battery of trombones, besides plenty of bass and harmony.

The boys have adopted a special insignia, consisting of two narrow red stripes on the white stripe of the trousers and a lyre of white on the sleeve of the coat.

With concerted practice, it is anticipated that before the end of the year the band will be one of the most praise-worthy organizations of the college and it will well merit the support of the school.

The new shoes and waists worn by the girls after holidays are very noticeable owing to the great number of them. No doubt during vacation, the girls applied the instructions received in the sewing rooms.

Page 14 of PDF

STUDENT AFFAIRS.

Class Spirit.

Class spirit was given a good shaking up during the last two weeks of school before the holiday vacation. Before the Seniors and Juniors sent out the "Proclamation to the Insignificant and Inferior (?) Freshman and Sophomores," one could hardly tell whether there were any class organizations in school or not. Notices were given out almost daily, but that is about all it amounted to. Possibly four or five faithful (?) members would come straggling in five, ten, fifteen minutes late, only to adjourn until next day hoping for a larger attendance. Next day they would again meet-with the same success.

The Seniors and Juniors saw that things were not as they should be, and decided upon the proclamation plan of remedying them. They thought if anything would incite unity

[Image]

Page 50

STUDENT LIFE.

it would be to issue a proclamation setting forth rules for the lower classmen to follow. The plan was a good one. It caused the classes,

for the two weeks at least, to be united. If we need one thing in this school more than anything else, it is class spirit and patriotism, and why do we not have it? Is it because we have so much work in school that we can not devote any of our time to our class organizations? Or is it because we are too slack, too easy going to do things that we are not compelled to do? It is not because we are over-worked, for those who are carrying the heaviest courses are the ones who, as a general rule, are doing most in the class organizations. Shall we admit that it is the second reason? Instead let us all work to remedy the evil. Create a little class rivalry. That will do as much toward uniting the members of the different classes as anything. Second year's, challenge the First year's for a game of basket-ball, and put the rooters off the field if they cheer too much for the opposing team. Juniors, challenge the Seniors to a debating contest and show them that there are other students in the school. Do anything that will create a little class rivalry, and it will not be long until we can boast of the class spirit and patriotism in the A. C.

#### The Aim of Physical Training.

Is physical training essential for me? Is it worth while? These are the questions a thinking man asks himself when he has an opportunity to engage in college athletics. A young man comes to college to get an education. What is the aim of this education? One noted educator has said that it is to gain "the highest development of the best possibilities of the individual." We may further distinguish between spiritual education which trains one in the moral purposes of man: intellectual education which shall develop an enlightened intellect; and physical education which, while partaking, in a measure, of the essentials of the first two divisions, has an educational aim of its own. This aim was stated as follows by a national committee on physical education. "It is the purpose of the system to develop the whole body and its parts symmetrically and harmoniously: to preserve, increase, or produce bodily health, strength, and perfection; and to maintain and promote physical activity, dexterity and efficiency."

"Exercise!" Some husky lad will echo disdainfully. "Look at that arm from pitching hay." We must remember that bodily strength is, perhaps, one of the least important benefits of physical exercise. We must not lose sight of the fact that a muscle is not a simple organ, but that it is made up of two clearly distinguishable yet co-operative parts. First a contractile executive mechanism, the muscle-proper, and then a stimulating, regulating, guiding part, consisting of the gray matter of the brain and spinal cord with the connecting nerve fibres. One may pitch hay all summer and gain a tremendous development of the arm and back muscles, but in the end these muscles have been taught but one trick. You are no better able to run, jump, or save yourself from a bad fall; you will learn no more easily to use a saw or a hammer, or to do the thousand and one things required of a man in active life. Activity, dexterity and efficiency are enumerated in our aim of physical training. A man must know how to use his strength that he may apply himself to the various demands of life with ease and confidence.

In fact, as the Sweeds put it, "the body must be subservient to the will." Not that by a great effort the body should act as the will dictates, but that the muscles of the body should respond willingly and easily to the mere wish of the individual. One young college athlete, learning the building trade, was the wonder of all the "men on the job," because at the first try he could strike either right or left handed. He has left the men still wondering why he could learn so rapidly and has passed on over old and experienced tradesmen. It is matter of record that the time consumed by athletic exercises is in no way detrimental to the athlete's standing in scholarship. On one occasion when the subject was under discussion, the faculties of Yale and Harvard

Page 51

#### STUDENT LIFE.

consulted their books and found that, taken as a class, athletes stood a trifle higher in their studies than those who were not athletes. These results have been substantiated by researches in other institutions. It may be argued that these men without there athletics would stand still higher. A few points more or less in scholarship marks are certainly not too great a sacrifice to make that one might take a course in physical training, for without the proper amount of natural physical excitement there is danger of a lack of spirit, dash and confidence which are such vital factors in a winning contest, even the stern contest of life itself.