



6-7-1907

## The Ursinus Weekly, June 7, 1907

Harvey B. Danehower

John R. Munhall

Welcome Sherman Kerschner

Victor J. Abel

Horace Custer

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Harvey B. Danehower, John R. Munhall, Welcome Sherman Kerschner, Victor J. Abel, Horace Custer, Dawn Thomson, David Stamy, and E. I. Cook

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# The Ursinus Weekly

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VOL. 5. NO. 36

COLLEGEVILLE, PA., FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1907.

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## THE BACCAULAUREATE SERMON

The Baccalaureate Sermon was preached to the graduating class on Sunday night by Rev. J. H. Bomberger, D. D., of Cleveland, O. The audience which was large, considering the weather was well pleased with Dr. Bomberger's inspiring sermon. His text was taken from Luke, Chapter 6, verse 31. He took as his subject, Moral Initiative. There are two perversions of this subject and one version. The two perversions were, first, anticipate the actions of your neighbor and do unto him the things that you expected him to do unto you; second, do unto others as others do unto you. The one version is the text, and as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. The following was the order of service:

OPENING HYMN: Alma Mater *Berleman*  
INVOCATION

REV. FRANCIS YOST, D. D.

TRIO: At Eventide It shall be Light, *Gaul*  
MISSIS FLING, DRUMM AND DURVEA.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

PRAYER

REV. S. L. MESSINGER, S.T.D.

SOLO: The Ninety and Nine *Campion*  
MRS. JOHN TRUMAN EBERT

SERMON

REV. J. H. BOMBERGER, D. D.

PRAYER

ANTHEM: Hark, Hark, My Soul *Shelly*  
COLLEGE GLEE CLUB

CLOSING HYMN: Guide Me, O Thou  
Great Jehovah *Williams*

BENEDICTION

## CLASS DAY EXERCISES

On Monday afternoon at two o'clock the Class Day exercises of the 1907 class were held in Bomberger Hall. The exercises from beginning to end were entertaining. The Class History by Ellis was full of amusing incidents while the prophecy by Fry predicted bright futures for the different members of the class. One of the features of the program was the farewell speech to the faculty by Koerper. While expressing the appreciation of the class for the kindness shown them by the faculty, he also presented many grievances. Cook showed great taste in his selection of presents for his classmates. In every case the recipient received something appropriate and useful. After concluding the exercises in the chapel they went out on the campus where they planted an elm tree. The tree was received in behalf of the '09 class by their President Koons. The following

was the program:

President's Address Titus A. Alspach  
Piano Solo Evelyn A. Neff  
History James A. Ellis  
Prophecy Frank S. Fry  
Address to Undergraduates

Charles H. Brown  
Flute Solo Floyd E. Heller  
Presentation of Mantle

Titus A. Alspach, Pres. '07  
Receiving of the Mantle

Ira J. Hain, Pres. '08  
Farewell to Faculty Harry H. Koerper

Presentation Edward I. Cook  
Quartet H. H. Koerper F. E. Heller  
T. A. Alspach F. S. Fry

## CAMPUS

Master of Ceremonies  
Nelson P. Fegley

Ode L. Dale Crunkleton  
Planting of the Tree

Oration Marshall B. Sponsler

## JUNIOR ORATORICAL CONTEST

One of the most interesting oratorical contests for years was contested by representatives of the Junior Class, Monday night at 8 o'clock in Bomberger Hall. The orations were all timely and delivered very effectively. The orators were so closely matched that the judges had difficulty in deciding to whom the prizes should be given. After much deliberation they brought in the following decisions: First Prize, Gold Medal offered by F. H. Hobson, A. B., '03, awarded to Eva May Thompson, Collegeville, Pa.; Second Prize, Gold Medal, offered by Rev. J. W. Meminger, D. D., '84 awarded to John Brook Paiste, Langhorne, Pa., and Honorable Mention to Harry William Snyder, Reading, Pa.

The Judges were J. Frank E. Hause, Esq., West Chester, Pa. Muscoe M. Gibson, Esq., Norristown, Pa.; The Rev. William G. Russell, Norristown, Pa.

The order of exercises was as follows:

MUSIC: March, "Caesar's Triumphal,"  
*G. F. Mitchell*

MUSIC: Overture, "Macbeth," *Verdi*  
INVOCATION.

MUSIC: Waltz, "Moonlight on the  
Hudson," *Herman*

ORATION: Our Duty to the Japanese.  
LILLIE IRENE BECK, Phoenixville, Pa.

ORATION: The Crime of the Congo.  
JOHN BROOK PAIST, Langhorne, Pa.

MUSIC: March, "On Jersey Shore,"  
*Arthur Pryor*

ORATION: The New Philanthropy.  
HARRY WILLIAM SNYDER, Reading, Pa.

ORATION: A Defence of American Poetry.  
EVA MAY THOMPSON, Collegeville, Pa.

ORATION: A Plea for the Laborer.  
J. ELLIS TOBIAS, Tremont, Pa.

MUSIC: (Arlene) Selection from  
the Bohemian Girl, *Barnhouse*

AWARDING OF THE MEDALS.  
BENEDICTION.

The music was furnished by the Royersford Band, Geo. Shull, Director.

## ALUMNI ORATION

A large number of the alumni and friends turned out on Tuesday evening to hear the oration delivered by the Rev. C. D. Yost, of Phoenixville on the subject, "The Twentieth Century Sunday School" Aside from the oration, the exercises were featured by excellent music. Mr. Tammy, of Philadelphia delighted the audience with several vocal solos. He sang "Celesté Aïda," by Verdi as a first number and responded to an encore with a humorous selection which was well received and evoked much laughter. Mr. Tammy is the possessor of an excellent tenor voice, and was the best that we have ever had the pleasure of hearing.

The Oration by Rev. Yost was scholarly but practical. He said, in substance, that the Sabbath School would in time supplant the day school, and that Bible study should be added to the curriculum of every college and university of our land. Facts and statistics were given, showing what a factor the Sunday School really is in the lives of our people. The Oration was followed with several solos by Mr. Tammy. Rev. E. F. Wiest, of Philadelphia, conducted the exercises. A reception in the library by the faculty concludes the evening's exercises.

## COMMENCEMENT DAY

The graduation exercises were held Wednesday morning and were attended by a large and appreciative audience. The orations by the two members of the graduating class were excellent productions and were well received. The Salutatory oration, "The Danger of Hero-Worship in the Democracy," was delivered by Harold Dean Steward of Perrysville, Ohio, and the valedictory oration, "The Lack of the Appreciation of the Beautiful," by Miss Evelyn A. Neff of Collegeville. The College was especially fortunate in engaging as Commencement Orator, the Rev. James N. Farrar, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y., who spoke very effectually on the importance of seizing the moment which comes to the life of every individual and decides his future. Dr. Wenire of New York City addressed the graduates. His thought, condensed, was that "knowledge is power" only when

it is put to use with wisdom. Rev. John F. Carson, D. D., of Brooklyn, N. Y., was called upon for a short address, and favored the audience with a talk supplementary to the addresses of the former speakers. The addresses were made the more enjoyable by the ready wit and well pointed anecdotes of the speakers. The following was the program of exercises:

## MUSIC

OVERTURE—"Morning, Noon and  
Night" *Suppe*  
SELECTION: Rigoletto *Verdi*  
MARCH—Nibelungen *Wagner*

## PRAYER

MUSIC: Largo *Handel*

SALUTATORY ORATION: The Danger of  
Hero-Worship in a Democracy  
HAROLD DEAN STEWARD

VALEDICTORY ORATION: The Lack of  
the Appreciation of the Beautiful  
EVELYN AMANDA NEFF

MUSIC: Love and Passion *Messina*

COMMENCEMENT ORATION, by the  
Reverend James M. Farrar, D. D.,  
Pastor of the First Reformed Church,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

## CONFERRING OF DEGREES

ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATING by the  
Reverend John F. Carson, D. D.,  
Pastor of the Central Presbyterian  
Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

MUSIC: America *Tobani*

## BENEDICTION

Honorary Degrees were conferred on the following persons:

D. D., Reverend Ammon Stapleton, York, Pa.

A. M., Raymond Garfield Gettel, A. B., and John Scott Tomlinson, A. B.

B. D., Frank Rohrer Lefever, Asher Theodore Wright, and Calvin Daniel Yost.

A. B. Magna Cum Laude, Harry Harmon Koerper, Evelyn Amanda Neff and Harold Dean Steward.

A. B. Cum Laude, Titus Alfred Alspach, Charles Henry Brown and Leslie Dale Crunkleton.

A. B., William Burgoyne Ashenfelter, William Webster Chandler, Edward Irvin Cook, James Alfred Ellis, Nelson Place Fegley, Frank Swenck Fry, Floyd Erwin Heller, William John Lenhart, William Moore, David Renninger Rohrbach, William Elwood Shunk, Marshall Sponsler.

Honors in Special Departments Biology, William Moore. English, Evelyn Amanda Neff.

The music was furnished by the Wolsieffer Orchestra, of Philadelphia, Edmund Wolsieffer, Director.



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**FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1907.**

**EDITORIAL**

**THE SENIORS**

Another college year has closed, and brought with its close another Commencement season. This year it was an especially interesting one for Ursinus. The class of 1907 numbered seventeen graduates, and the halls of Ursinus were filled with their friends and the Alumni. As undergraduates we wish to express our sorrow on seeing this worthy class leave their Alma Mater. They will be missed in all the functions, social and educational, we know. However, we wish to express more than our regrets. We bid the seniors farewell with the truest regret, but we cannot help looking forward to the greatest successes for the class of 1907. We wish each member a life full of prosperity and joy far overbalancing the trials and difficulties they will meet on the way. We bid them God-speed on the journey of life and trust this may have been the "commencement" of their triumphs.

**VACATION**

Not only for the Seniors has the school year closed, but for us all. Fact is, in spite of the friendships among us, we are the more agreeable on the prospect of not seeing each others faces for a while. There is no denying the tendency to become universally *tired* and *disagreeable* toward the close of the year. We all have before us the prospect of three months vacation. Let us enjoy them to the full, and come back in the Fall with renewed energy and zeal. Let us have full-

est enjoyment from these three months of rest from duty and pursuit of pleasure. Most of all we would advise you *not* to study. Say to your books, lessons, essays, etc., as we say to you—"goodby."

**SOCIETY NOTES**

**SCHAFF**

On Friday night, the Seniors gave their farewell program. It was rendered as follows:

Piano Solo, "Rando Capricosse," Miss Neff, '07. Responded to an encore. Talk, "What Benefit I have derived from Schaff Society," Ellis, '08. Stump speech, "The Graft of the Capitol," Ashenfelter, '07. Flute Solo, "Cavalier Rusticans," Heller, '07; encore, "Song Without Words." Recitation, "The Harvard Man," Cook, '07. Stump Speech, Steward, '07. Reading, Heller, '07. Farce, Heller's Employment Agency, by the whole class. Gazette, Cook, '07.

Election of officers resulted in the following being elected: President, Danehower, '08; Vice President, Wolff, '08; Recording Secy., Miss Messinger, '10; Corresponding Secy., Miss Fling, A.; Financial Secy., Paiste, '08; Chaplain, Koons, '09; 1st Editor, Miss Duryea, '08; 2nd Editor, Miss Thompson, '08; Critic, Miss Beck, '08; Treasurer, Knauer, '10; Pianist, Miss H. Neff, '09; Janitor, D. Thomson, '10. Miss Neff, '09 and Wismer, '09, were elected on the Library and Museum Committees, respectively.

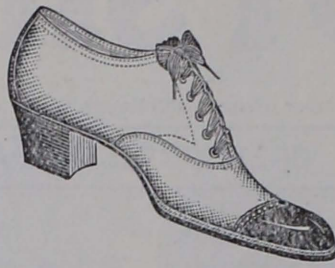
**ZWINGLIAN**

The Program on Friday evening was miscellaneous in character and musical throughout. Piano Solo, Kerschner, '09. Vocal Solo, Miss Drumm, A. Piano Duet, Kerschner, '09, and Thomas, '10; Violin Solo, Sponsler, '07. Freshmen Quartet, Misses Sponsler and Fermier, Messrs. Wagner and Heritage. Mixed chorus, Miss Miss Drumm Leader. Violin Solo, Rhodes, '08. Oration, Alspach, '07. Zwinglian Review, Myers, '10.

After the rendition of the program, was regular election and officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Leidy, '08; Vice-President, Abel, '09; Secretary, Custer, '09; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Moyer, '09; Treasurer Tobias, '08; Critic, Bordner, '08; Attorney Stamy, '08; Janitor, Kerschner, '09.

Under voluntary exercises, the society was favored by an instrumental trio by Snyder, '08, Maeder '10 and Crunkleton, '07, and by a violin solo from Rhodes which constituted the entire score of the opera "The Prince of Pilson." Alspach also rendered a German declamation in a very capable manner. Messrs. Alspach, Crunkleton

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Fry, Shunk, Koerper, Moore, Sponsler, and Brown were elected honorary members of the Society.

**PERSONALS**

Myers, '10, made a short trip to Philadelphia Saturday.

Drvis, '10, spent Saturday at his home in Conshohocken.

Heritage, '10, Fry, '07, Koerper, '07, and Kerschner, '09, sang in the St. James' Episcopal Church in Evansburg on Saturday.

Mrs. Fling, of Germantown, has been spending several days at the College as the guest of her daughter, Miss Fling, A.

Miss Ebbert left town for her home in Carlisle, where she will spend vacation.

Heritage, '10, Stamy, '08, and Wagner, '10, passed a pleasant Decoration day at Willow Grove Park.

R. S. Thomas, '10, Mertz, '10, and Brown, A., visited friends in Jeffersonville Saturday evening.

Misses Shaw and Miller, A., spent a pleasant afternoon at Kieth's on Saturday.

Miss Swartz, ex-'09, has been visiting in Collegeville for a few days this week.

Leidy, '08, entertained his father and sister on Wednesday.

**DONATION TO LIBRARY**

A Library of Universal Literature, consisting of 57 volumes, was presented by Professor Chandler.

**ALUMNI**

Rev. C. A. Waltman, '99, of Blaine, Pa., has resigned his charge in order to accept a call from Faith Reformed Church, York, Pa.

David R. Wise, '06, of Reading, was present at the Charmidean Club last Saturday evening.

On Decoration Day ground was broken for the erection of a new church by St. Paul's Reformed Congregation of Mahanoy City, Rev. J. G. Kerschner, Pastor. The church is to cost \$40,000, and will be completed within a year.

R. E. Mabry, '06, a former crack pitcher, has signed with Hellertown for the summer.

Rev. H. E. Jones, '91, of Phila., was a visitor around the college last Friday.

W. E. Hoffsomer, '03, is preparing to depart for the Orient. On August 27, he will leave San Francisco for Tokyo where he has secured an appointment as teacher of English in the Meiji Gakuin. This is a union school of the Dutch Reformed and the Scotch Presbyterians. Mr Hoffsomer is well fitted to undertake his appointment and we predict more than ordinary success for him. He intends to locate there permanently.

**CHARMIDEAN BANQUET**

The Second Annual Banquet of the Charmidean Club was held last

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Saturday evening in the College Dining Hall. Although Pluto seemed dissatisfied and raged, the Charmideans were not affected in the least, and their jollity made the atmosphere in the banquet hall light and jovial. At eight o'clock the club men and their ladies began to arrive. After being received in the Y. M. C. A. room the guests were ushered into the college dining hall, where an elaborate spread invited their indulgence. They quickly found their places and soon were seated around the festal board which was arranged neatly in the form of a great I. The table was prettily decorated with candelabras and red and white carnations—the red (Roosevelt) carnation being the club flower—and a spirit of good cheer and brotherly feeling prevailed during the entire evening and the atmosphere was filled with a continual flow of wit and humor. Never before was such friendly spirit manifested between seniors and Juniors. The menu and toasts were as follows:

Oysters on the half shell, Queen Olives, Salted Nuts, Mock Turtle, Lobster Farce, Green Peas, Sweet Breads, A La Perignex Fillet of Beef, Mushrooms, New Peas, New Potatoes, Fried Tomatoes Charmidean Punch, Chicken Salad—Mayonnaise, Neufchotel, Wafers Vanilla Ice Cream—Strawberries Fancy Cake, Cofe Noir, Mint Souffle.

Toastmaster Ellis, the retiring president, very appropriately introduced the speakers. The following were the toasts: The Charmidean Club, Harry Snyder, 1908. The Class of 1907, Harvey M. Leidy, 1908. A Home for the Charmidean, Floyd E. Heller, 1907. College Girl, Clarence E. Toole, 1908. Club Men, Harold D. Steward, 1907. A Toast by an Alumnus, David R. Wise, 1906.

The toasts were all timely and were appreciatively received. The true meaning and purpose of the club was brought out and many encouraging remarks were made as to its future. Mr. Wise 1906, gave a very entertaining talk on the experience of the first year out of college and reaffirmed his heart felt interest in the club. All departed filled with a spirit of good will toward the Charmidean Club.

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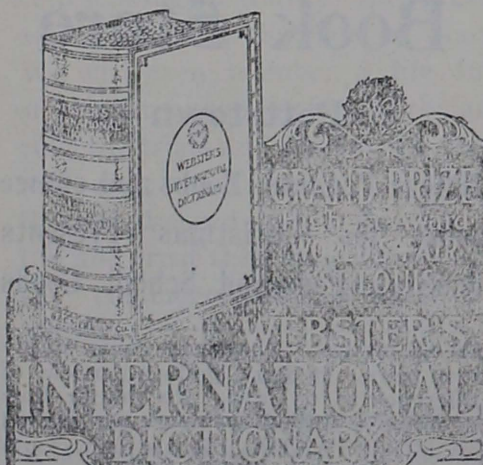
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**THE SPIRITUAL CONFERENCE**

The First Annual Conference of the Reformed Educational Union held at Ursinus College on June 5 and 6 was a grand success. The most excellent program that had been provided was carried out in full, each person being present to perform his part. The attendance at all of the sessions was good, and on Wednesday evening swelled to large proportions.

The Conference opened at 2:30 o'clock, with devotional services conducted by Rev. Wallace H. Wotring of Nazareth, Pa. After a paper by Rev. James I. Good, D. D., on "Our Immediate Needs," in which he emphasized the importance of new life and growth along various lines of church work, the Conference went into business session. The Executive Board reported a series of by-laws regulating the work of the Annual and District Conferences and of the Executive Board, which were adopted. Under these by-laws, the president appointed standing committees on Nominations, Business of Conference, Finance, and Resolutions. By this means the work of the executive sessions was curtailed and more time was given to the spiritual features of the program.

The services on Wednesday evening were opened by Rev. Edward F. Wiest. Rev. John F. Carson, D. D., of Brooklyn, preached a most powerful sermon on the baptism of the spirit. The discourse warmed the hearts of all present and was most refreshing to the souls of his fellow ministers.

Thursday morning after a business session for considering the reports of committees, Rev. J. A. Bomberger, D. D., of Cleveland, Ohio, delivered an address on "Cumulative Culture" in which he told in a delightful manner of the ways by which a minister may save himself from reaching the "dead line." Dr. Alvin S. Zerbe of Tiffin, Ohio followed with a scientific paper on "Phases of the New Theology." His clear and forceful treatment stirred the minds of his hearers and was followed by several speeches in discussion.

The closing session opened with a Bible reading by Rev. George Stibitz. Rev. Floyd W. Tompkins, D. D. of Philadelphia made the final address on "Our Present Blessings." In his usual happy and impressive manner, he filled the hearts of his fellow ministers with new love for this work and pointed out the hopeful signs of our times. The Conference closed with prayer by Rev. Dr. R. C. Zartman.

Ursinus Reserves met their first defeat of the season in a game with Perkiomen Seminary, on June 1. The game was played at Pennsburg. Score, 8 to 12.



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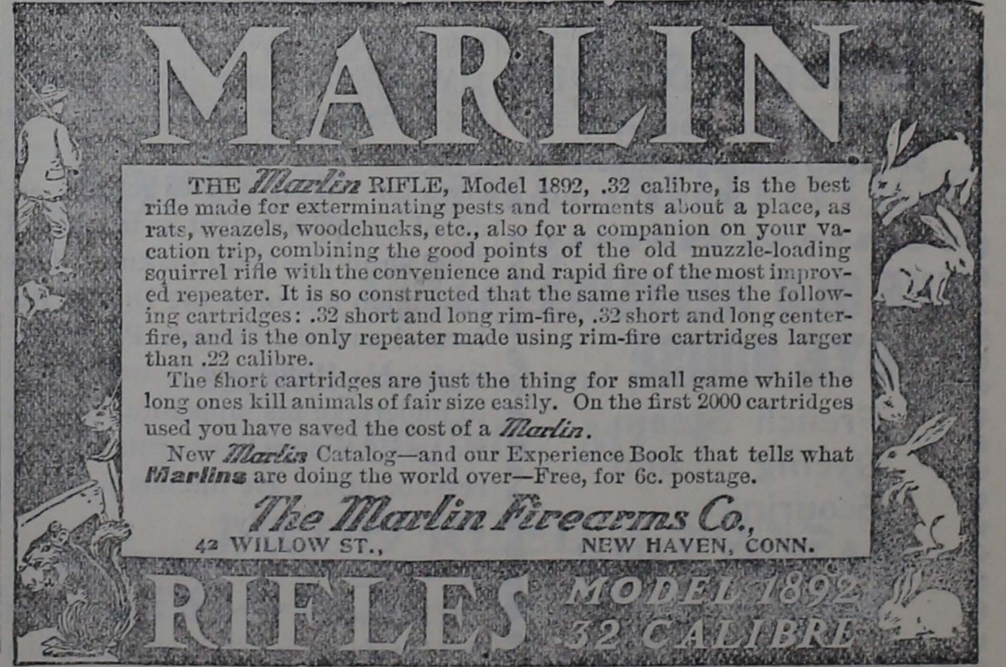
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# The Literary Supplement.

TO THE URSINUS WEEKLY

Volume 5.

June.

## FAREWELL SONG TO THE CLASS OF 1907

Ursinus within our bosoms  
There dwells a love for you,  
That ever will be loyal,  
That ever will be true.  
Come whate'er the Fates may send us  
Of fortune good or ill,  
Our love for you will linger  
And your name our hearts will thrill.

When our college days are ended  
And we must bid farewell  
To the ways we oft have wended,  
To the friends we've loved so well ;  
When our hearts are filled with sadness  
For the parting that must be,  
There will come a ray of gladness  
In a burst of loyalty.

And we'll come back to Ursinus  
As often as may be,  
And we'll come back to Ursinus  
The dear old placè to see,  
And the memory of our college days  
We will guard while life shall last,  
And our love for Alma Mater  
Will but grow the more steadfast.

JOHN R. MUNHALL, '09.

## THE POWER OF MUSIC

FIRST PRIZE ESSAY IN THE ZWINGLIAN  
SOPHOMORE ESSAY CONTEST

We are all worshipers of power, of mere and sheer power. The storm, the cataract, the avalanche, the earthquake, the terrors of height and depth,—all these are held in awe and worshiped in a greater or less degree by all men. To some extent, beauty and power are interchangeable terms : at least it is certain that the order and harmony which are a part of beauty are symbols of power. Every product of the creation shows forth power, and into everything molded by His creative hands music has passed from God's finger-tips. There is nothing that is so much the creation of God as music.

Among the ancient Greeks, music ranked educationally on a par with gymnastics. Musical features entered into all the Olympian games. Not only in Greece, but also in other nations, was it made an important phase in the lives of the people. In the reign of Akbar, a Mogul king, a famous singer sang a ragá consecrated to the night. Immediately the sun was eclipsed, and darkness spread as far as the voice was heard. There was another ragá that burned him who sang it. Desiring to make a test of it, Akbar ordered a musician to sing this song while being plunged into the waters of the sacred river Jumna. In vain ; the unfortunate singer became a prey to the flames. The sweet strains of Apollo, the greatest of all musicians, brought tears to the eyes of Pluto himself. If these legends convey nothing else, they indicate a profound and wide-spread conviction of the power of music.

Leaving the atmosphere that savors of myth and fable, it is a matter of record that Alexander the Great was moved to fury by the Phrygian,

and calmed by the Lydian melodies of his favorite bard Timotheus. As Dryden has it,

"Softly sweet, in Lydian measures,  
Soon he soothed his soul to pleasure."

It is also related that an insurrection at Sparta was quelled by Terpander, who sang skilfully to the accompaniment of his harp. After the battle of Leuthen, the exhausted and careworn soldiers lay down in a pouring rain among their own slain and wounded to pass the night. Suddenly a voice was heard above the moans and groans singing the good old German hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God." Soon another voice took up the strain, and then another, until the entire army joined in the chorus to the great Ruler of Battles. It so inspired them that they were able to follow up the advantage of their victory with telling effect.

Through all ages music has gone hand in hand with religion. If it has served religion by aiding the expression of its loftiest hymns of triumph, religion has more than repaid the service by raising music from the crude chant of savages or the wild orgiastic raving of heathenism to the loftiest position among the productions of the human mind. The tide of song streams down through the ages, ever and anon throwing aloft some bright jet. All through the Sacred Story we read of music aiding religion, and when religion waned music waned with it. The early Puritans saw nothing in it. "Away with it,—the monkish mockeries and monkish music ; it is all evil," they said. Yet beauty and harmony came over in the Mayflower, for were there not human hearts beneath those sombre vestments? Music might be stifled for a while, but the birds still sang, the waves still beat, the winds murmured through the forest. The world was full of music.

"There's music in the sighing of a reed ;  
There's music in the gushing of a rill ;  
There's music in all things, if men had ears ;  
Their earth is but an echo of the spheres."

Music has ever been a language, the ideal of speech. It existed long before articulate speech was known. Ever since the creation there have been artists, who have drawn their inspiration from the same great fountain, Nature. There is great truth in those words of Emerson where he says, "Every appearance of nature corresponds to some state of mind, and that state of mind can be described only by presenting that natural appearance as it pictures." Music is the medium through which this is presented. Every form of nature is an emblem of beauty to the artist's mind. The cloud, which to the mind devoid of imagination is but a mass of vapor, a blot upon the sky, suggested to the mind of the artist thoughts as various and as lovely as the changes that it undergoes in its journey from dawn to sunset. To Wordsworth "The meanest flower that blows can give Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears"

The soul finds language for all its moods in nature, and it turns to music to furnish emblems in which to clothe the impressions it receives. Its changeful rhymes express to us the infinite variety of nature, and its harmony her spirit of sweet concordance. The mountain and seas interpret for us its expression of grandeur and sublimity ; the quiet pastoral landscape its moments of repose, and the storm its passion. The tremulous shadows and murmurous voices of the forest typify its mystery and vagueness, and the flowers are the emblems of its purity, its grace and its tenderness.

Music appeals to all, for it touches every key of memory and stirs the hidden springs of all feelings, whether of joy or of sorrow. By its soothing chords we are imbued with a sense of solitude and the dreamless repose of nature

"Glides into our darker musings with a mild  
And healing sympathy, that steals away  
Their sharpness ere we are aware."

Franquil harmonies enter into the unquiet spirit, breathing a mood of perfect calm. Again, an expression of slight dissonance breaks in ; our mood is disturbed by a thought of pain. Music set to patriotic sentiment fires the ardor of an entire nation. The boatman's rude chant as it floats upon the water, or the shepherd's song upon the hillside, has a soothing influence. Under its spell we are made to forget sorrow and melancholy, or by its power, to recall many happy moods and pleasant moments. What passion cannot music raise and quell? As an art we love it ; as a power we worship it, and just as the spheres began to move in response to the pleasing harmony of the first sacred lays, so

"When the last and dreadful hour  
This crumbling pageant shall devour,  
The trumpet shall be heard on high ;  
The dead shall live, the living die ;  
And music shall untune the sky."

W. S. KERSCHNER, '09.

## USES OF LITERATURE

SECOND PRIZE ESSAY IN ZWINGLIAN  
SOPHOMORE ESSAY CONTEST

"Books are friends and what friends they are!" Companionship with books gives great pleasure ; who therefore, does not love to live in such pleasant relationship? Even though the human heart has a natural longing for friendship, yet nothing is rarer, harder to obtain, and more difficult to keep than sincere human friendship. What is called friendship often lasts so long as money, comforts, and reputation lasts, but when poverty sets in, when comforts are removed, or a stain rests upon the character, friendship takes wings and flies away. This however is not the case with literature for when we read good books we add rich gifts to our life's experience ; they serve as a new influence pouring itself into our lives, as new teachers inspiring and refining us, and as staunch friends who are always at our side, transporting us into a wider, calmer and higher world, when life grows narrow and weary ; they do not forsake us when misfortune befalls and other friends depart ; they do not offend us nor do they grow impatient, if we, like children ask them to repeat the same story. Friends who give us so much and demand so little in return can not be found elsewhere.

Good literature is also an inexhaustible source of delightful entertainment and helpful instruction. Bishop Spalding says, "Books are an ever present opportunity to turn each idle hour to profit or delight ;" in them we find inexpensive entertainment and lasting pleasure as well as happiness and cheerfulness, for in such intellectual companionship, we forget our troubles, our vexations, and our cares. Emerson very truly says, "If we encounter a man of rare intellect we should ask him what books he reads." Much could we derive if we followed this plan, for it is from books that we acquire knowledge and wisdom, and it is in them that poets and dramatists have pictured for us life in all its varieties, philosophers have given the reasons of truths, and scientists have recorded their discoveries. So then it matters not whether it be biography, introducing to us some humble life made great by duty done ; or history, opening sights into the movements and destinies or nations that have passed away ; or poetry, making music of all the common things around us, and filling the fields, the skies, and the work of the city and the home, with eternal meaning—whether it be these or fiction, or religious books, no one can become the friend of one good book without being made wiser and better. Also as a true source of culture we are again deeply indebted to literature, for as Dr. Schaeffer says, "In education, culture is worth more than knowledge." The truth of this statement is evident when we con-



sider a man who is educated and even wealthy, but who lacks culture and refinement. Such a person can not enjoy life in its fullest sense, for gold will not make a mean, miserly man rich nor will knowledge alone exercise and develop his mental and physical powers. It is the reading of good sound literature that produces culture, because it improves and refines mentally and morally; it inspires us not only to do everything fairly well, but to do one thing better; it causes us to be dissatisfied with ourselves and to strive for something higher; it refines our taste, so that we can discern the excellent, the good, and the beautiful; it inspires us to love purity of mind and heart,—in short, it develops the whole human being.

Concerning character itself, one cannot desire a more excellent means for development than literature. The supreme question of the century is the question of personal character, and it has developed itself to this,—that a nation that can grow a worthy manhood and womanhood, can live and be immortal. Character then is the conquering power, and to attain this power the reading of good books is essential, for men's deeds depend very closely upon their thoughts and feelings. In great books we find revealed to us under all conditions, the very souls of men who wrote them and become aware of the higher ideals of lofty personalities which we can hope to but partially imitate. If we read the life of noble and benevolent characters we cannot help but be inspired to resolve that all the gifts we possess, whether talent or position, shall be devoted to the welfare of our fellow beings. In Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," we learn that repentance is a balm for wounded, bleeding hearts, while in George Eliot's "Romola" we find so beautifully portrayed, that truth is the means to happiness and character. Such literature makes us the possessors of the things which are most worth striving for, which can not be purchased, which no man can take from us. What other thing then has power like that of literature to make us rise above narrow pleasures, to render us large hearted and sympathetic, to enable us to suffer what is hard and painful, and fill our lives to the full with thankfulness and love?

Good books alone can do this, for they are our best friends. They instruct and entertain us, they are the true sources of all our culture, and an invaluable means for the development of a noble personality. They are "those miraculous memories of high thoughts and golden moods, those love letters that never meet, those honeycombs of dreams, those still beating hearts of the noble dead, which elevate us to associate with 'Kings and Queens' of the past centuries and become the immortal nightingales that sing to us forever of the roses of life."

V. J. ABEL, '09

#### THE HEREDITY OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

Man has worked hard to lighten himself of many cares and burdens by casting out the nineteenth century by the rear gate. Man has worked harder to give the incoming twentieth century a fitting introduction. Amid music and harmony; noise and confusion; with all its pomp and power; prospects and overtures this century has been ushered in, bearing its ensign of "Liberty, Equality, Fraternities" well to the front.

We are now living in the twentieth century, an heir to the throne of the Present, a most remarkable era both constructive and destructive. In attending to our respective activities, we make use of the multitudinous advantages that are forwarded to take a retrospective view of the situation. Do we realize the extent, the power, and the great development that this infant century has taken upon itself?

Like all other centuries of the world's history this one has certain characteristics peculiar to

itself in spite of its few years. When studied as a part of the whole, these individual peculiarities seem to diminish in significance, because it is evident that no other developments could have resulted from the precious conditions since there is a continuity of centuries.

No distinct and accurate lines can be drawn to mark off and designate the period of a certain development. The growth is gradual, it overlaps several periods. One can not enjoy a certain development up to a fixed and definite line, then just so soon as that line is passed, fall into another entirely different development. This is just as absurd as fixing exact dates for feudalism. In other words one century is the heir of those preceding. The line of descent may be traced from the present century directly to the creative period.

The characteristics of one era are the results of many changes, both small and great, in those of preceding centuries. The fact that developments may be traced through the many different epochs of time only proves this more conclusively. Some periods may resemble former periods in certain unimportant respects, nevertheless the underlying development of the present is a series of changes, each in advance of the other. In tracing the governmental development of England, we learn that in the tenth century the Witenagemot was the ruling assembly of the nation. When William I came from Normandy and succeeded in securing the throne, this assembly of freemen was changed and weakened. This decline continued until it virtually passed out of existence, in all but the name, for many years. During the thirteenth century, we see the same assembly returning once more, with almost the same power; with a new name, arrayed in the garb of a Parliament. Thus we see that there is in different centuries a similitude of existing developments. One century may have a certain development that might have existed in some previous time or what will come in some future time. This has been proven true for antiquity, and may be expected to be true for posterity.

The perfection to which the development has attained is the result of improvements on the old. A natal peculiarity of mankind is his dissatisfaction, his discontent with the old, just so soon as it shows signs of falling below his ideal or his need. Developments arise; become useful and are used; then cast aside for another rising development that augurs well for more efficiency and greater adaptability to the necessity of man.

The papal jurisdiction which reached its height during the last quarter of the thirteenth century was, during its rise, a series of displacements and substitutions all of which helped to push forward the interests of the pope. The perfection to which industries have reached can well be studied by studying the series of improvements and substitutions made during its rise. Again the history of commerce is a series of exchanges and improvements on the older forms and methods. Who would think of plowing the soil with a crooked stick; weaving and making all the cloth for garments; traveling west by stage coach; or mining with chisel and hammer? These are things of history; they are incapable of satisfying the needs of the times. Yet is it not necessary that they were? They are the very beginning and foundation of the present methods.

The present development of this remarkable period is the effect of causes. As the centuries roll along, and time lapses into eternity, the mental capacity of man also has not been still; it has increased. This increase has been so rapid that the physical capacities have not increased in proportion, and so the arbitrary fact stands, that man is not capable of supporting his mental capacity. He attempts to practice his theories that are beyond his endurance. Had he the strength of Atlas he might be able to suc-

ceed much better. Not to say that man is weak, or to infer unsuccessfulness, but it is the strong mind, too strong for his present physical condition. This has been one of the causes of the many great inventions. Certain conditions of life necessitated economy of time and labor. Man by his keen reasoning calculated, from an economical point of view, the necessity of greater results. To comply with his wants he set to work, and the results of his labors are the manifold inventions. This development is not hypothetical in nature, but a true and perfect result of preceding causes.

This, the twentieth period of the world's history since the birth of Christ, is the resultant of two component forces: evolution and man's ingenuity. Forces that pull at right angles, in respect to each other, bringing the development from the origin diagonally to the present stage of perfection. It is the evolution of the embryonic developments prophesied by the biblical prophets. Does not the Bible contain prophecies of the future? And the advantages of these we are now enjoying. Have they not been written by the old prophets of the inspired period, receiving this divine inspiration that was showered upon them as a blessing? Certain causes produce results; these results acting as new causes produce new results, and in like manner the roll of evolution is drawn out; which acting in conjunction with man's ingenuity and inventive genius, we have at last realized those long prophesied conditions.

Although they inherit their basis; although their characteristics are founded on a legacy, nevertheless, those characteristics that pertain to Nature have no heir. She is ever the same. Her future prophets are as bright as the past have been. She has ever continued her perfection as at first. The fact is; man has become wise enough to interpret her; to understand her, and to appreciate her. The sun, drawn by the fiery steeds of Opollo, rises above the horizon, chases the shades of night from the ethereal dome, and spreads his glorious brightness over all the land to-day as of old. It has been so; it is so; and it ever will be so.

We read, we hear and some of us participate in discussions about this remarkable growth of the twentieth century. Some question its certainty; some doubt its sincerity; others defend its inhumanity; while others expand its adulterated, defiled and corrupted vandalism. But for all this, is there any cause to become alarmed? Should we allow a few pessimistic dreams to wield the power of condemnation? We are living in a world of free thought and press toleration. Let them shine and their rays fade away into nothingness; let them exhaust themselves in vain imbecility. Time, the world, and eternity shall nevertheless exist.

The growth and development of the present time continues; it is natural and is based upon the tested hereditary foundation of experience.

HORACE CUSTER, '09.

#### GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN

Compte Pierre sat meditatively gazing into the fire. His features, as shown by the glowing embers, were strangely in contrast to his peaceful surroundings. Even the easy chair, drawn up for his own comfort, bespoke ease and rest, yet strangely enough he was far from feeling the existing conditions. In fact, he was very wretched, and it had all come from Jean's actions. That very day had she not scouted the idea of the marriage? This wedding, which was to have made Montfort, his nephew and nearest relative, forever happy, was off. The burden seemed hard and was made even more so by the great love he bore for this relation. As he gazed into the coals his mind wandered back in retrospection. The room and all its luxurious furnishings vanished, and he was transported to a small white house on a hill.

This he knew was the place he had first met



Jean, ah, how different from the proud arrogant lady who now bore that name. He had loved her then, loved her better than it is possible for any man to ever love the same. And she had returned his affections until that fatal day when coming joyously across the fields which separated the little white house from his own home, he had slipped and fallen, causing a frightful wound in his cheek which never completely healed.

From that time on a coolness sprang up between them, or rather an indifference on her part toward him. He was infinitely saddened by this faithlessness, inasmuch as he had loved her so. He had watched her grow more beautiful in the eyes of the world, saw her at last married, and now all had changed. Her husband was dead and she was practically penniless, yet she had refused to allow her daughter to marry this nephew, whom she knew would some day inherit his own vast fortune and be able to make both her and the daughter enormously rich. Of course, as it was the boy had a little money, but she should have considered the future. This last bitter triumph of Jean's had cut him to the quick, not only for his own sake, that was a slight matter, but because of Montfort. He knew the boy was deeply, madly in love with Jean's daughter, yet here was a refusal standing in the way of the marriage. He pondered and weighed the question "what should he do?" He knew from very casual observances that Montfort's love was reciprocated, yet a mother and an already ageing man stood in the way. As he peered into the fire anxiously searching an answer to the question he seemed strangely old. His gray hair seemed to droop with the same sort of despair as that exhibited by his spirit. The scar shone out livid, a striking contrast to his pale face. Wearily he thrashed the problem out. There seemed but one solution, since Jean would not permit her daughter to marry Montfort unless he was possessed of a fortune, and, as it was imperative that he marry, he must have the money.

Thus the balance wavered this way and that; at last he felt rather than clearly saw the answer. A half smile passed over his pallid features, rendering hideous the already frightful scar. He arose, put a stick of wood on the fire, rubbed his hands before it and left the room. Left to itself the fire crackled merrily, playfully casting its fantastic glimmer over the chamber. Now it would grow fitfully sullen, and again with spiteful, revengeful air rise up and throw showers of sparks into the guard. Thus it went on through the night. In the morning when the sun cast its rays on the hearth, there was just enough light left to send back an answering glow. Then nothing but the sun remained, a cold hearth showed where the coals had been, but otherwise nothing. The wind moaned around the eaves, and the roar of the surf could be heard. The flapping of the shutter in the front casement partly darkened the room. The view from this window is beyond description. To the right, about a hundred yards, a sheer drop of ninety feet, to the left the same, and in the front likewise. From the edge of the cliff one looks down on the roaring deep; it breaks with an everlasting tirelessness, leaving very little sand between the rocks and itself. The foaming white caps vie with each other to reach the towering rocks, never, however, quite succeeding. This morning especially were they eager to attain the jagged cliffs, seeming to push aside the very sunshine in their effort.

With each breaking, an object which had been not long ago far out in the deep came nearer and nearer. Now it seemed about to be hurled on the beach, only to be dragged by the reflux further out than before. Back and forth this thing was tossed, now approaching the shore, now departing. At last, at low tide the tireless waves cast it up upon the sand. Then, not un-

til then, is this strange thing recognizable. It is a human body. A scar shone out clear and distinct on the right cheek of the corpse. It is Comte Pierre. The waves beating ceaselessly on these cliffs seem not to mind this gruesome thing on the ledge. Ah, no, they are used to such tragedies. They know that it only means the bathing of some other poor mortal in the placid waters of Lethe, and the swimming of another soul in the streams of oblivion. Thus they go forever breaking, breaking, breaking on the cold dark shores of this craggy place. The wind dies and the sun goes down. It is night. And the curtain has been drawn on another of God's tragedies.

D. A. THOMSON, '10.

### THE HISTORY AND PLAN OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

The efforts to advance agricultural interests through education is not new. As early as 1796. Washington in his message to Congress had recommended the establishment of a National University. He pointed out that with reference to individual or national welfare, agriculture is of primary importance and the more nations grow in population and wealth the more apparent is this truth. Although this was recommended in 1796, Congress did not act, and for various reasons nothing was done until the failure of crops in 1837-38. The fact that the soil was being exhausted in some sections of the country, especially along the Atlantic sea board aroused public opinion to action.

The agitation for better education for farmers spread throughout the country and states began to establish schools for the teaching of agriculture. In New York the legislature advised that a schools were established by private enterprise but Michigan was the first state to really establish a technical school of agriculture. In 1856, a college was opened near Lansing with sixty-one students and five professors. Other states followed and the movement culminated in the Morrill Act of 1862. This act provided, that 30,000 acres of land for each member of Congress, should be set apart for the establishment of colleges to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.

A National Board of Agriculture was not formed for many years chiefly because of the indifference of farmers. An attempt was made through the patent office (1836) to assist farmers by distributing seeds. The work developed and in 1862 a department of Agriculture was organized. It is now under the direction of a secretary and includes nine distinct bureaux. The department contains the most complete collection of works on agriculture in the world.

Since 1898, the date of the second Morrill bill, colleges have been established in every state and territory in all sixty-three institutions, fifteen states having separate courses for colored students. All of them offer four-year courses and shorter courses. The total number of officers and instructors in 1904 was 4166, students 56226. In most states tuition is free. The organization of these colleges varies. The only school having an exclusively agricultural course is the Massachusetts Agricultural college. The most common type is that of the "State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts." This type comprises a college giving courses in Agricultural subjects and lands for experimentation and instruction. Another type is that of the University offering courses in agriculture. Cornell is the best representative of this type. It offers four distinct courses of instruction, post-graduate leading to Master or Doctor of Science; a regular four year course; a two year course; and a winter course.

A further advance in the development of the educational system of agriculture was the Hatch Act of 1887, which provided for the establishment of Experiment Stations for research work

along agricultural lines. Under this act fifty-six stations have been established.

Having sketched the history of Agricultural education it remains for us to see what relation the college bears to the farm. What may we expect from this new education? The question will in part be answered by considering what education does for any man. If it has accomplished its purpose, he will be inspired, given new ideals, made a more vigorous thinker, increased information and what is most important, power. In the past, such men seldom remained on the farm because the farm and the college were not properly adjusted. This state of affairs was not due directly to either but rather to modifying conditions. The pedagogical system was new, agriculture is complex and what is most responsible for the lack of harmony is the burdensome tradition of centuries which even today oppresses the mass of farmers.

Our agricultural education has passed through one stage of development in which the book idea predominated. As a result of that idea men went into other vocations. Colleges, Academies and the public schools followed the book idea. But colleges have changed from all book methods to part laboratory methods. Agricultural schools have changed from books about cows and corn to cows and corn themselves. The teachers are men of affairs, practical farmers. Students come in touch with farm problems and not theories about the farm. Agricultural education is being made a means of developing power.

The courses in most Agricultural Colleges embrace Agronomy and Animal Husbandry, Dairy Industry, Horticulture, Entomology, and Chemistry, of Soils and Foods. The subjects include Cultural branches and Pure and Applied science, for instance, Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Zoology, Mathematics, English, Modern Languages, Drawing, Physiology, History and Political Science, Agronomy, Veterinary Medicine, Forestry, Psychology, Ethics Outdoor Art and Rural Engineering.

The Agricultural College has convinced the public that higher education is necessary for successful farming. The question at issue is, can agriculture and country life subjects be made the means of educating a man broadly, independent of his future vocation? Judging from the tendency of educators to introduce agricultural subjects into the common schools we infer that they have a pedagogical value. The trend of the times is to put the scholar in touch with his problem and fit him for life. Cultural studies should not be sacrificed neither should they predominate. Industrial education may be made to have a cultural value if properly planned and taught. Despite the fact that a number of persons still contend for the pursuit of the "humanities" only it is coming to be the general opinion that all education can be made to lead to what we ought to know as culture. What is most needed however, to help turn the college man farmward is such a change in our common school curriculum and methods as will turn him countryward in his formative years. The public schools of the rural districts if they train for college at all train for a college of Arts and Letters. The teacher never cites examples of educated farmers as examples for emulation but merchant princes, generals, preachers, orators and teachers. The arithmetics contain every other kind of problems except farm problems. The illustrations in the geography's are of capitals, churches, and warships. The Historians tell too much of war and too little of the peaceful arts. A change in the aim and ideals of the teacher coupled with a revision of the text books used in our public schools would create a new type of Agriculturists.

Let us now pass to more immediate means of education. The college is doing a good work but its influence must increase slowly. The farmer needs aid badly and at once, whether he



it or not. One of the means employed to give farmers immediate relief has been the Farmer's Institute. Inadequate as they are in aiding farmers to secure better conditions they do bring about an interchange of ideas and draw the farming classes one step nearer better education. The Reading Courses prepared and furnished farmers by the State Colleges have had for their aim the searching of the man of small opportunities. By this means the many will be helped rather than the few. If the farmer is once interested it will require only judicious administration to lead him on to better things.

A very recent development in the plan for better education has been the formation of clubs for boys employed on farms. These organizations arrange visits to leading farms and to the State Colleges of Agriculture. They secure lectures, provide libraries and cultivate a community of interests among the members.

The part played by the Agricultural Journals and Farmer's Organizations in the past has been considerable and they will continue to play a large part in his future education but they can advance only in proportion as the farmer becomes more enlightened.

If Agricultural education is to attain a completed development and Agriculture rise to its rightful estate, there must be a change in the attitude of the farm to the educated boy. The boy who comes back to the farm must be given a little latitude to put his ideas into practice and to work out his ambitions. The farm must put away that idle curiosity and spirit of ridicule which has driven many educated boys from the farm. Instead of this it should offer an appreciative sympathy. Tradition cannot longer stand in the face of social and economic forces. The farmer who expects to succeed must be trained.

Surely if the farm is awake to its needs it will seek men of education and power to outline its policy and fight its battles. Through education only can the tone and efficiency of the agricultural classes be raised without impairing the old time vigor, influence, and sound native thinking.

E. I. COOK, '07.

### JERRY

Something is surely going to happen! On the public square moves a rapidly growing crowd of men, boys, and dogs. Now they are coming this way, and one sees that the crowd is following a man carrying a cage of very large rats. Presently the man stops. The crowd stops with him. The man's two dogs, famous rat terriers, jump madly up at the cage, giving all the while, short, loud exultant barks. Their noise attracts a third dog—a little fellow with long black ears thrown back as he runs, stocky white body carried on four short legs, and a stump of a tail such as is commonly seen on fox-terriers. He has almost the appearance of a rabbit, as he comes bounding from a distant corner of the square to see what is the matter.

This is Jerry! He has never seen a rat! But impelled by the strong curiosity which is one of his most striking qualities, he worms his way among the wilderness of human legs until he stands at last beside the two older dogs, whose understanding of the scene is the result of training and experience, and whose noisy barking never ceases. Jerry barks too, not because he appreciates the cause of the excitement, for he does not, but because under the circumstances, it seems the proper thing for a dog to do. The crowd is quietly expectant, those in it move still closer together, for now the man is holding aloft the cage in which the rats move 'round and 'round; he gives the cage a quick shake, whereupon two of the biggest rats drop to the ground. They lose not a second in trying to escape, but the dogs, after a short, hot chase have fastened their teeth on the victim. A

vicious shake or two and all is over.

Again impelled by curiosity and doubtless, too, by his awakening doggish instincts, Jerry approaches the rats which the other dogs have killed, and, giving a hasty sniff at their dead bodies, joins immediately in the barking which has again begun as the man is about to liberate more rats. Jerry's interest in the scene is growing, as one may observe from his excited barks and the restless motion of his stumpy tail. There is no part of a dog's anatomy, which is a better indicator of his excited sensibilities, than his tail.

Look! The second chase has begun! The rats are swift, but in a few seconds, they, like their predecessors, drop lifeless from the jaws of their pursuers. Jerry goes up to one of these fresh victims, viciously shakes one of the limp things, drops it, studies it, then shakes it again, much to the amusement of some of the spectators.

Now the eager barking of the older dogs again draws him, and, having by this time fully caught their spirit, he joins in their noise with his own loud, sharp barks and almost turns a somersault in wild attempts to get at the rats which are left. His opportunity has come! The last three rats have been freed and are running for their lives. What a scramble among the dogs! They run, first this way, then that! With their noses on the ground they bump into each other and for an instant are confused. Quick, Jerry! Eureka! Jerry has caught a rat!

LAS VEGAS.

### A PLEA FOR THE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF RAILROADS

Death and injury are dreaded by all. We look with horror upon that great engine of destruction, War, and shudder when we think of the dead and wounded. Monuments are raised to departed heroes and the dependents are pensioned. We view with abhorrence the massacre of Armenians by the Turks or the ill-treatment of the Jews in Russia. All this is just and right but how little do we consider that our nation, the pride of every heart, is fostering an institution which causes more destruction than any one of the above. It is an appalling fact that during the year that has just closed, nearly 10,000 persons have lost their lives due to the railroads while the injured exceed 75,000. Yet this ruthless massacre is allowed to go on unheeded. We are allowing the very sap and marrow of our nation, the railroad employes, to be crushed under the wheels of greed.

Railroad wrecks have become so common that they scarcely attract attention any longer. It is considered a daily occurrence to read of one or more smashups where the lives of several employes have been crushed out and hundreds of such accidents are never reported. It is only the extraordinary ones that fill us with horror. Wrecks where the dead are counted by the tens and the wounded by the scores.

Mark Twain has said "there are no railroad wrecks in France because some one must hang for each one." Fiction as this may appear, yet it shows that stricter discipline is maintained in Europe than in America. The offenders are punished more severely for their wrong doings and thus the employes feel a greater responsibility resting upon them. To an American, time is an important element. He enjoys nothing better than to start at the last moment, travel at high speed and arrive on time. Nothing is so irritating as an unexpected delay. "Get your trainload to the destination with as little delay as possible for delay means loss. An occasional wreck is not so disastrous to business as constant failure to deliver on time." This seems to be the idea which actuates many of the trainmen. Chances are taken, signals are disobeyed because the enginemen know how many times such actions are winked at by their

superiors. Excessive limits of speed are maintained to make up for a few lost moments and thus the lives of a whole trainload are endangered because of the wilful disobedience of one.

But let us look a little deeper into the causes of wrecks. Ten years ago the managers were seen in their offices striving for more efficient service. They were in personal touch with each one of the employes and the latter were made to feel that the interests of the managers were their own. To-day conditions have changed. The controlling interests are in the hands of speculators, men, whose measure their lives in dollars and cents, whose basis of operation is on Wall Street scheming to get more control by day and enjoying the festivities of the ball-room by night. The employes no longer feel the keen interest which they once experienced. They are become tools in the hands of their avaricious masters. They are compelled to work undue time. A few examples will suffice. In one disaster the cause was given as not having train under control. No. of hours on duty for engineman, forty-two. Another, a collision, engineman asleep. Hours on duty twenty. Another, a collision, signalman asleep. Hours on duty, twenty. Another, a collision, engineman mistaking signals. Hours on duty twenty-seven. Such instances are not uncommon. Yet we entrust our most precious possession into the hands of persons disqualified by over work. Think of the callousness toward mankind when such gross indignities are perpetrated by the managers. The public has become subservient to Mammon. It has become a mere instrument to increase the dividends of speculators. Yet with all this, there are those who say that the railroad magnates should be left go unrestricted.

Another means for the protection of life is the employment of more safety devices. A few are in operation now, the chief of which are the block system and the air brake. Think of the number of employes' lives that could be saved if all trains were properly equipped with air brakes and automatic couplers. Some one has said that the block system scrupulously followed is good enough. However admirable these precautions, the human factor in attention to signals is liable to err. Sudden illness or sickness or the treacherous memory may incapacitate an engineer or operator from duty. A machine under proper conditions cannot make mistakes. A device by which no two trains can be in the same block at the same time is now in operation in the New York subway. This should be employed on all the roads as well as an open switch signal. If a Southern railway, equipped with the block system was unable to protect its own President, what is to become of the rest of mankind? In the great complex systems of railroads, the human element must be eliminated as far as possible.

It cannot be denied that the railroads are unable to supply the demands, that the country has progressed more rapidly than the railroads, and that congestion exists. Yet this development was not unnatural or unexpected. The capitalists had ample opportunity to prepare for it. New stock was issued but it was so handled that most of it went into the hands of the promoters. The time has come when the public no longer looks upon the management of the railroads as something mysterious into which they dare not meddle. On the other hand they now demand to know the existing conditions. The American citizen is no longer willing to submit his life to the "bulls" and "bears" of the stock market and "be brought as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opens not his mouth." The Inter State Commerce Commission has been a potent factor in removing many of the abuses of the railroads such as rate discrimination, but its power is too much limited to be of great value. A movement has been advanced to enlarge its powers. These powers should include as they do in England, that of official investigation of railway accidents of adjusting responsibility, of regulating the hours of employment and of authority to order the installation of the best safety appliances. Whether we arrive at these results through the commission or by the establishment of a special bureau in the Department of Commerce is a matter for debate. But debate ought no longer be tolerated as to whether congress has the right to exercise such supervision over American railways as to make them at least as safe for travelers as the railways of the other civilized countries of the world.

D. L. STAMM, '08.