

University Missourian

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UNIVERSITY CALENDAR

- Dec. 14. German Club, Ladies' Parlors, 8 p. m.
- Dec. 15. Jasper County Club smoker, Sigma Nu house.
- Dec. 18. Lecture, Lorado Taft, Auditorium.
Basketball, Missouri against Warrensburg Normal, Rothwell gymnasium.
- Dec. 19. Basketball, Missouri against Warrensburg Normal, Rothwell gymnasium.
Preliminary University debate, Auditorium.
- Dec. 23. Wednesday, at 4 p. m. to Jan. 5, Tuesday, at 8 a. m., Christmas Holidays.

THE MASSACHUSETTS LAW.

If the bill which Senator F. M. McDavid says he is going to introduce sometime during the next session of the Legislature becomes a law, it will make it an offense to assist any one but a blind man in making out his ballot. And that ballot will be such that a person who cannot read cannot make it out. The bill is to be based on the Massachusetts ballot law.

In Massachusetts the ballot used is much like the one generally used in primaries. First come the names of the nominees for governor, written alphabetically with the name of each one's party opposite his name and just beyond the name of the party a blank square. The voter makes a cross mark in the square opposite the name of the man for whom he wishes to vote. The names of the candidates for other offices follow with a similar arrangement and in years of presidential elections the names of the presidential nominees and electors lead the ballot.

Such a ballot under such a law would not only prevent much illegal electioneering among the ignorant but it would also facilitate independent, thoughtful voting by intelligent voters. And, whatever political speakers may say about scratching the ticket, independent voters and the demand for independent voting have, in recent years, forced the political parties to put up more conscientious and more capable men, with the result that the standard maintained by our public officials is in general growing better.

Under the present system the man who scratches does so at a disadvantage. He runs the risk of invalidating his vote, a risk which cannot affect the man who votes straight whether he does so conscientiously or through ignorance or prejudice. Thus a premium is put on the partisan's vote.

Another thing, when a voter has not fully made up his mind beforehand, it is much easier for him to vote for the nominee about whom he is doubtful, if the name of that nominee appears lined up with the names of others for whom he wishes to vote, than it would be if the name was written among those of other candidates for the same office. With the new ballot such a thing as one man pulling another through would be unknown. It would place each man on his merits and put the commonwealth or country before party.

This reform seems bound to come even if the next Legislature does not adopt it. For with the record of more than seventy per cent of the voters in the recent election having scratched their tickets in one way or another, and with the power of the initiative and referendum in their hands, there appears to be no way of stopping it.

HAPPY MARRIAGES.

The man who is so absurdly happy over the fact that his girl has just said "yes," has odds of 12 to 1 for a happy marriage. If he loses with such odds in his favor, he may try again.

Civilization has progressed rapidly in the last few centuries. Henry VIII of England had a difficult time to divorce Catherine of Aragon in order to marry Anne Boleyn. Now, if the husband smokes his cigar at home, the wife gets a divorce on the charge of abuse. It he smokes it at the club, the plea is neglect.

Reports of divorce suits form the most interesting part of the daily newspapers. The letters of the husband to his affinity are printed in full,

taking the place of the old-fashioned letter writer with its formal phrases.

Those who imitate the magazine short story and fall in love at first sight are very apt to be sadly disappointed. In fiction they live happily ever after, but we are not informed as to whether they live together for any length of time. Possibly it is better to love a husband and then lose him than to be a bachelor girl with only a cat or dog to love.

In the West where husband and wife see each other every day, the divorce rate is very high. In New York the husband works all summer in order to keep his wife in luxury at the seashore resort. In the winter she goes to Florida for her health, while her husband still keeps working at his office. She is satisfied since her bills are paid. He doesn't get a divorce since his wife keeps him in good humor with her charming love letters.

Love is not always the cause of marriage. In the North the ambitious girl may marry the man who can offer the most money or the highest social position. In the South the negro man may marry the dusky maiden who can take in the most washings and thus feed and clothe him while he goes hunting and fishing.

The happiest marriages are those where the couple has quarrels, throws dishes at one another and then makes up and are sweethearts until time to get mad at each other again.

SOCIETY

THE engagement of marriage of Miss Ethel Robnett and Joseph Monteith Estes was announced this afternoon at a luncheon given to a few of Miss Robnett's intimate girl friends at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Anderson Robnett. The decorations were suggestive of Christmas and the color scheme red and green. After the first course each guest drew by a red ribbon a heart-shaped card from beneath the carnation centerpiece. This card bore the names of Miss Robnett and Mr. Estes, thus revealing the interesting secret.

Miss Robnett is a graduate of Christian College at Columbia, and Washington College at Washington, D. C., and an accomplished musician. While a student in the University of Missouri she was a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority. Mr. Estes is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Estes. As a student of the University he was a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity and a player on the Varsity baseball team.

The wedding, which will take place during the Christmas holidays, will unite two of the oldest and best-known families in Boone county, Mr. and Mrs. Estes will live in Fort Worth, Tex., where Mr. Estes will be employed by a live-stock commission firm.

TOLD ACROSS THE BREAKFAST TABLE

"What's worrying you?" inquired the solicitor for the Oven, seeing the football man gazing thoughtfully out of the window. "Anything wrong?"

"Nothing much," sighed the latter, turning his attention to the breakfast food. "Merely a problem in transportation."

"You're not taking economics, are you?" asked the Arts student.

"No," replied the football man, shaking his head. "I'm only wondering how I'm going to get home for Christmas on money I spent last Thanksgiving."

"That must be an illustration of the future complex civilization, referred to by President Hill in his inauguration speech," grinned the wag.

"It happened this way," continued the football man, without heeding him. "I had a hunch that we were going to beat Kansas, so I—"

"Well, don't expect sympathy from me," warned the Junior "Medic." "I haven't forgotten the part of his speech that referred to gambling in University athletics."

"Bet on one's opinions isn't gambling," argued the Freshman.

"Well, in some cases it might be called insanity," granted the "Medic."

The conversation turned to the torch-light parade.

"For a pioneer effort it was all right," assented the Arts student.

"Did you fellows hear what President Schurman said about the affair?" asked the red-headed "Sopli" with the wart on his nose.

"Better tell us," urged the solicitor. "I was so busy keeping my torch lit that I didn't hear the speeches."

"He said the parade was a part of college education," explained the "Sopli."

"We were in good company then," remarked the wag.

"How do you mean?" asked his neighbor.

"Because we were among educational lights," finished the wag, heading for the door.

Pitiless America.

The American, like all fighters, like all conquerors, does not know what pity is. I have never seen public opinion stirred by a great catastrophe where many lives had been lost. Individual life is of little value.—La Grande Revue, Paris.

SPIRIT OF THE NEWS

In an interview, the former chief engineer of the Panama Canal, Bynau-Varillo, brings before the American people that \$300,000,000 will have been spent and the undertaking may be a failure instead of solid canal. He locates the vulnerable point in the site of the Gatun Dam, which has lately given away in a part that was built this year. Besides all that money which may have been squandered without results the treacherous canal will have taken its annual toll of lives. Yesterday a communication was received that 100 were killed and wounded near Panama by the explosion of forty tons of dynamite. Most of the victims are supposed to be Spaniards. The American people will forgive anything, however, if they get their money's worth.

Mrs. Potter Palmer is negotiating for the purchase of the Chicago Record-Herald, which she intends to make a thoroughly Democratic paper. If she succeeds the Record-Herald will be the one really Democratic paper in Chicago. The purchase price is said to be \$2,000,000. Mrs. Palmer will place her sons in responsible positions. The Woman's Suffrage agitation that has been imported from England may have tainted this society leader with the desire to boss the bosses. She must see the ruling power of the press and realize that a newspaper is a more effective party weapon than the stump. Perhaps though she only wants to see the boys tied up in a respectable business.

President-elect Taft with his family will spend the next two months in Atlanta, Ga. He will play golf and dictate his inaugural address.

The new Congress to convene March 1 will show a slight Democratic increase in both House and Senate. At the present session the House has 224 Republicans and 67 Democrats, the Senate 61 Republicans and 31 Democrats. After March 4 there will be in the House 219 Republicans and 172 Democrats, 60 Republicans and 32 Democrats. Ninety-four from the present Congress will be retired. The Missouri delegation will contain six men who are not at the present time in Congress.

SECRETS OF MEDICINE MEN

A YOUNG Indian who is ambitious to become a doctor, and finally a prophet, learns from his father or other member of his tribe the name and medical properties of some herb. He can also, by presenting a sufficient number of ponies to a medicine man prevail upon the doctor to impart the secret of the herbs to him.

Frequently Indians allege that the secret is revealed to them in a dream or by a bird or an animal. After procuring it the novice is prepared to begin the practice of medicine.

Success in their opinion is only possible with the aid of the Great Spirit, and in order to invoke the help of the supernatural they resort to various sacrifices.

For instance, there is the practice of ascending a butte or other elevation and lying with the face to the ground for several days without food or until they are completely exhausted. During this period they profess to have been taught some song, or the Great Spirit converses with them through a weed, bird, wild animal or reptile.

They frequently allege that wolves come to them and howl and that they understand what the animals say.

While treating a patient they place tobacco in the little pouches which they tie with sinews. These are painted brilliant colors and fastened to willow sticks about the size of the shaft of an arrow, but somewhat longer.

Occasionally as a substitute for these totemic strips of flannel are fastened to the tops of the sticks and permitted to flutter in the breeze. The sticks are also gayly painted and inserted in the ground or crevices of rock on top of a hill.

This is done to gain favor with the Great Spirit and secure his assistance in making their practice successful or curing the patient under their charge. The tobacco or flannel constitute, in fact, votive offerings and the custom is no doubt of Oriental origin.

They have, of course, in the meantime, given the patient a concoction of medicine made from the herb or herbs which they especially use, the offering to the Great Spirit being simply supplemental to the giving of medicine, but nevertheless considered a necessary ceremony.

After a novice succeeds in effecting a sufficient number of miraculous cures to render him famous he adds prophecy to his curative attainments and makes predictions as to events which will occur in the future.—Denver Field and Stream.

Representatives of Kansas colleges have fixed March 12 as the date of the state oratorical contest. The contest will be held in Ottawa. Nine colleges are represented.

VIEWPOINTS

(The University Missourian invites contributions, not to exceed 200 words, on matters of University interest. The name of the writer should accompany such letters, but will not be printed unless desired. The University Missourian does not express approval nor disapproval of these communications by printing them.)

Win All Events.

To the Editor of the University Missourian: Missouri will have ten chances this winter and spring to retrieve the blot on her athletic escutcheon received Thanksgiving day. It is probable that in four basket ball games, four baseball games and in two track meets we will meet Kansas. Let us win them all. E. A.

Provide a Better Hall.

To the Editor of the University Missourian: The football reception demonstrated again the great popularity of dancing in the University. The crowd in Academic Hall reminded one of High School Day. Since the gymnasium can so rarely be secured, it would seem that a better hall should be provided. R. E. M.

Label the Gowns.

To the Editor of the University Missourian: If the gowns in the Academic procession had been labelled as to degree and University, the student might have been enlightened. But as it was the gaudier the gown and the greater the variety of colors involved, the more important the student thought the wearer. M. P.

Cloak Room for Men.

To the Editor of the University Missourian: The need of a lounging room for men in Academic Hall is becoming more and more apparent every day. Men have to take their overcoats and hats with them to class rooms and when the class is crowded these articles of apparel often find a resting place on the floor. The girls have a number of rooms where they can put away their wraps and lounge about until class time.

Now, why can't the men have the same convenience? They outnumber the women three to one. If the matter would be brought before the board of curators at its next meeting, the board would probably look into the need for such a room and the result would be the University men would have a congenial place to spend the time between classes and a lounging room that would obviate the attraction of the up-town pool rooms for the men. L. R. S.

Stop the Knockings.

To the Editor of the University Missourian: The anti-Monilaw agitation has reached a point where every loyal Tiger supporter must have convictions on one side or the other. While I have no personal interest in the matter save the desire for fair play, and for Tiger success, I hope I may be allowed space to consider some of the phases of the discussion.

It is to be noted that the most bitter criticism comes from men who know the least about football, or who have some fancied grievance against the coach. It is charged that lack of interference due, of course, to poor coaching, is responsible for defeat. Now, interference may mean two different things. Either the formation of end-runs for the protection of the runner, or general "helping spirit." The first is due to coaching, the second cannot be coached into any team by any coach. Only the lack of interference, then, on end-runs and open plays can be considered. The critics say results count. Let us see. Missouri made more yards by end-runs than did K. U., Iowa or Drake, and Ames' gains were made not by interference but by the matchless individual work of the Lamberts and Hubbard. Where, then, is the force of the "interference" arguments?

"But," say the critics, "look at the material." I ask "What material?" Only one man on the Tiger squad was considered good enough material to make the "All-Missouri Valley team." No man on the squad could kick 35 yards consistently and kicking would have won the K. U. game. Not a man on the team but who would have fallen woefully short of the speed displayed by the members of other conference teams. We had good material, I admit, but not of such character as to guarantee a winning team, even with the best of coaching.

Monilaw is admitted to be a great trainer, even his worst enemies admit that he is a great theoretical master of the game, few would care to assail the excellence of his open formations, yet they say he is not practical, he has not played the game. As a matter of fact, tho' barred from inter-collegiate contests, he has played more years of football than any two men on this year's team.

And as to his record. In his three years' work here Kansas has crossed our goal line but twice—a record unequalled by any three years in our history. For the first time for six years we have scored on K. U. The time was when Kirksville held us 6 to 0 and Tarkio beat us. Those days are past. We beat teams this year that we would not have dared to play four years ago. Next year we will do still better. So let's stop the Monilaw anvil chorus. C.

'VARSITY NOTES

BORN: To Prof and Mrs. Max Meyer, a son, Friday, Dec. 11.

Miss Willah Alspaugh left Columbia Saturday for her home in Sedalia. She will not return to school this year.

A meeting of the Pike County Club will be held at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening at 604 South Ninth street.

Mrs. Burton Harrison of New York is the guest of Mrs. J. C. Jones, wife of the dean of the College of Arts and Science.

Harry Drame, a student in the Engineering Department of the University of Missouri, has gone to his home in Charleston, Mo. He is not expected to return until after the end of this semester.

Der Deutsche Klub of the University of Missouri will hold its bi-monthly meeting in the ladies' parlor of Academic Hall at 8 o'clock this evening. A Christmas program consisting of songs will be given.

President W. S. Dearmont, of the Cape Girardeau Normal School, who attended the inauguration exercises last week, gave a dinner Friday evening to the alumni of the Normal who are now here attending the University.

John Carter, who was called home two weeks ago on account of the illness of his father at Carthage, returned to Columbia Saturday to make final arrangements for leaving school as his father is no better. He departed again for Carthage Saturday night.

The preliminary debate to select the members of the University debating squad will be held next Saturday. The preliminary will last all day and far into the night because of the large number of contestants. The question is, "Resolved: That a tariff should be levied for revenue only."

The Livingston County Club is preparing to give a dance and reception to the High School pupils in Chillicothe during the holidays. The club will meet Tuesday night to make final arrangements. The club is working up a plan, also, to send the agricultural publications of the University to every district school in the county.

J. G. Paxton, who was a student in the University in 1888-89, a Phi Beta Kappa and a Sigma Nu, and is now a professor in the University of Oklahoma, was a guest in Columbia during the inauguration exercises. He speaks enthusiastically of the prospects of the new University of Oklahoma. The state has just appropriated \$200,000 for new buildings.

CIGARETTE IN CHINA

Consul J. C. McNally, at Nanking, in a report on cigarette smoking in China, says:

"The demand for cigarettes in China today is only exceeded by that for kerosene. Nor is this habit confined alone to the male portion of the population; the females of all classes and ages, from 10 years up, indulge as freely and openly in cigarettes, and with as much apparent enjoyment, as do their brothers.

"The introduction of this habit among the Chinese dates back only a few years, and its universal spread throughout the empire has been astonishingly rapid.

"The manufacturers say that their production is up to the standard and entirely free from opium. The small cost of cigarettes, which can be bought from one to a thousand at as low as one-fourth of an American cent each, may have something to do with their universal use; but, whatever the cause, the cigarette has apparently come to stay, has superseded the cumbersome water pipe heretofore so common among the Chinese, and is even used by opium smokers, who find an added pleasure in the smoking of a cigarette after inhaling the opium fumes.

"According to good authority, the monthly sales in Nanking alone amount to 125 cases, of 50,000 cigarettes to a case, costing about \$24 gold a case.

"The increase of the sales in or about a foreign settlement could naturally be attributed to the influence of the foreign indulgence, but in Nanking, with no foreign settlement and not more than forty foreigners, apart from the missionaries, the steady increase of the sales is, to say the least, surprising.

"The unlimited advertising of the merits of the various brands, through the medium of flaring posters pasted on the doors and walls of sacred temples, mission churches, city gates and walls and other conspicuous places, attracts the Chinese to the point of an experimental indulgence, for the poorest coolie can find the five cash (one-fourth cent) necessary to purchase a cigarette. The company practically enjoying a monopoly of the cigarette trade in China has been compelled to increase its plant to keep up with increased demand."

THANKS!

Oliver E. Saylor, University of Missouri, '02, writes from New York City: "Allow me to compliment the staff of the University Missourian on the appearance and fine illustrations of the paper."

Dr. John R. Kirk, president of the State Normal School at Kirksville, writes: "I desire to congratulate the University of Missouri very heartily on the impression the new Department of Journalism is making. Nothing the University ever did before has produced such an impression. It is a sure winner and other universities will rapidly take notice and get into line."

Prof. A. W. Duff, superintendent of the public schools at Mangum, Okla., writes: "Will you kindly send us circulars relating to the Teachers College? The annual catalogue will be highly acceptable also, as a number of our students are becoming interested in the University of Missouri on account of reading the daily University Missourian."

P. V. Collins, editor of the Northwest Agriculturalist, at Minneapolis, Minn., the only weekly farm paper in the hard wheat belt, writes: "I wish to congratulate the University of Missouri upon its practical course in Journalism. It is the only course that I have ever examined which has appeared to me as of real practical value and I heartily endorse it for newspaper workers everywhere."

TUBERCULOSIS OBJECT LESSONS

ONE of the most valued instrumentalities for awakening public interest in the crusade against the disease most dreaded by humanity in this part of the world is the tuberculosis exhibit, a peripatetic institution that has been held in most of our large cities. It acquaints the public with the causes and nature of the malady and, what is more to the point, shows the conditions favorable to its germination and development and thus points out the means of prevention if not of cure.

But the largest and most complete exhibition of this kind ever attempted was opened last night at the Museum of Natural History in New York city. It is with great propriety held in the metropolis, because it is there accessible to a larger number of people than elsewhere and because it can show the physical conditions under which the disease breeds with a larger warning emphasis. Dr. Koch at the Tuberculosis Congress at Washington said that New York had more effectively organized for the prevention of tuberculosis than any other city in the world, and he might have added that her need of doing so was also greater, for with her reeking slums and but partially reformed tenement-house system she presents a breeding ground for the scourge that is almost the despair of science.

In the rooms where this exhibition is held there is nearly an acre of floor space and about two acres and a half of wall space, all fully occupied. The halls have been partitioned off to represent town and country life, mountain and sea shore, with a handy model to show how best to treat the tuberculosis patient wherever found. While most of the exhibitors are from the United States, Central and South America are represented and perhaps the best of the exhibits come from Europe. The official exhibit from Germany is pronounced the best from an expert point of view.

The grave problem here dealt with is no longer what used to be regarded a concern only of doctor and patient, or one simply between science and disease. The value of a realization of the whole community's interest is afforded by the exhibit of the work done in Ireland in fourteen months by the Women's National Health Association under the direction of the Countess of Aberdeen. In that time rapid strides have been made toward an eradication of the disease simply by impressing upon the people their individual responsibilities.—Boston Transcript.

The Press an Agent of Peace.

I am engaged in a profession which is supposed to have a great deal to do with the making of war and peace. I have no doubt it is true that newspapers can do more than merely voice the thoughts and passions of the peoples, and now that newspaper work is beginning to rank with the older professions, with arms, the law, commerce, the arts and sciences, there is a growing restraint on the part of the writers and editors that must make for the world's peace. In my humble judgment, the more the newspapers tell the better side of the other peoples the quicker becomes the international understanding. Beyond question, therefore, a newspaper can serve an immense purpose, and especially in times of crisis, by remembering that "a drop of ink makes millions think," and that a "smartly" written article may do vast damage to foreign relations.—Lord Northcliffe, English Publisher, in Collier's Weekly.