

# THE COLBY ECHO.

PUBLISHED FRIDAYS BY THE STUDENTS OF COLBY COLLEGE.

NEW SERIES:—VOL. VII, No. 14.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## THE VALUE OF A VACATION.

At this time of the school year the student frequently finds himself chafing under the pressure of what seems to be a round of more or less arbitrary and irrelevant course—prescriptions. The last lingering vestige of the exuberance of spirit which carried him through the fall term and on until now, is gone. The resistance of his physical organism to the severities of the unusually intense winter has well-nigh exhausted his power of endurance. He leans no longer on the little surplus energy stored up during the holiday season. The retrospect but intensifies his present restlessness and he casts his eyes eagerly forward to the share-line of the next vacation, in the enjoyment which, by anticipation, he is reconciled to suffer the present with a medium of tolerance.

It may not be amiss, therefore, to inquire at this time what is the essential nature and value of the vacation to the student?

Apart from its general social value there is a particular individual value whose intrinsic worth in the formative period of his life can hardly be overestimated. The use to which one's time and energy is put is undoubtedly the most general criterion of the value of a vacation.

It would be an interesting historical study to trace the evolution of the various vacation periods, long and short, connected with the school curriculum. In general, it would doubtless be found that they have had their origin in both general and local conditions. Frequently, the influence of the precedent, setting aside a certain period of time has persisted long after the conditions which primarily constituted its *raison d'être* have disappeared.

The vacation, however, is not simply an opportunity to rest the mind by a change of scene and employment or to reimburse the students with funds sufficient to carry him through his course. If we mistake not the vacation has a much more profound significance in the development of character. The school vacation is a break in the continuity of a certain very definite form of organizing one's energies. As such it furnishes the opportunity of reflection upon and reconsideration of the particular line of studies being pursued. That opportunity in connection with the present flexibility in the selection of one's studies made possible by the elective system, is fraught with grave responsibility. It may mark, if seriously considered, the turning of the tide which "leads on to fortune," or, it may lead to subsequent disappointment.

The determination of the particular studies to be pursued, however, is not the only or most important value of the vacation. Since the college courses has as its aim a general education, it does not matter so much what studies are selected, provided there be some coherent principle governing their selection, and this is usually provided for in the studies that are required as well as by the natural continuity of subjects when once begun.

The intrinsic and essential value of the opportunity afforded for reflection upon the larger values of life and the college course in connection with those values. The period of the college course is essentially the formative period of life. Plans, purposes, interests and duties

ties together with the pressing demands of one's particular circumstances are all in the crucible undergoing reconstruction. What is to be the outcome in terms of character of the refining process. The most important discipline derived from the college training is not the ability to follow, the prescribed curriculum, however high one's attainments, and useful as that may be.

Useless, and until the student comes to appreciate the distinctiveness of his own selfhood, the college course can not contribute much of sterling value in the formation of his character.

The test of success in life is the ability one possesses to outline and organize one's word in accordance with some definite plan and purpose of one's own and when once so organized the ability to carry out that plan.

Too many fail after leaving college because they have never formed the habit of planning their own work and carrying into effect some construction of their own minds. There is not too much of conformity to the prescribed periods of recitation and outlines of courses, but there is too little of the true-blue student spirit which identifies those prescriptions with its own intrinsic purpose. The student feels that the course is more or less foreign to everything in which he is interested. False standards are accordingly often at work in the selection of courses. One hears that they are selected because they are easy, or because one needs the credit to bring up a deficiency, or what not.

While the pursuit of a course for such reasons may not exclude the possibility of deriving some benefit from it, yet it does not, unless the student can identify it with his own personal interests, contribute essentially to the formation of character. It more frequently militates against it. The chief value of the vacation then, from this viewpoint, lies in the fact that it gives the student an opportunity to reconstruct his habits and methods of study so as to make them conform to the highest ideal of his own thought and life. It furnishes a new beginning with renewed energy, if it has been well spent, which ought to enable him to stick to his self-appointed ideal and task in spite of the distracting influences. The college training thus becomes an individualizing process by which the student is fashioned into a more perfect instrument of social action. "Self-reverence, self-knowledge, and self-control" are the constitutive elements of character and the student who succeeds in acquiring this threefold self-mastery is well equipped for the various responsibilities of life.

PROFESSOR A. D. SØRENSEN.

## SENIOR CLASS RECEPTION.

On Tuesday evening of this week occurred the first in a series of social events to be given under the direction of the various classes for the pleasure of the faculty, students, and friends of the college. The senior class had this first affair in charge, making all the necessary arrangements and furnishing a most enjoyable entertainment.

The hall at the Chemical building was open at eight o'clock for the reception which was given in honor of Professor and Mrs. Parmenter. The guests were received by President White, Dean Berry, Professor and Mrs. Parmenter, and Miss Salsman and Mr. Roberts of the Senior class. After a short interval spent in general conversa-

tion the entertainment, consisting of the representation of a Japanese wedding, was given by the members of the senior class.

The parts, which were well taken, were enacted by the following members of '04—bride, Miss Mower; bridegroom, Mr. Tapley; groom's parents, Miss Ward, Mr. Partridge; bride's parents, Miss Simmons, Mr. Winslow; bridesmaids, Miss Clement, Miss Caswell, Miss Cleveland, Miss Watkins; go-between, Miss Carver.

One of the recitation rooms off the hall had been elaborately decorated for the occasion with Japanese rugs, hangings and gay colored lanterns to represent the scene of the wedding. The ceremony was performed with the utmost solemnity and stateliness to a piano accompaniment played by Miss Cochran. Innumerable salaams and much tea-drinking composed the greater part of the ceremony. A reading which was finely rendered by Miss Simmons entitled "A Japanese Lullaby, completed the program which was exceedingly well carried out.

Refreshments were served, consisting of fruit punch and ice cream. The entire affair was voted a great success by all who attended; and many words of praise were heard on all side, for the enjoyable evening which had been spent.

## COLBY, 30; HEBRON, 25.

The return game with Hebron and the last one to be played this year was won, last Friday evening, by the score of 30 to 25. The game was played in the Armory but the slippery floor did not prove to be so great a handicap as had been expected and a hard-fought game resulted.

The preliminary game was won by Colburn who defeated the much weakened second team 14 to 6.

Colby did not start out under very favorable circumstances as McVane and Willey were taken sick the night before and Cowing had been out of it since the Maine game. Coombs played a remarkable game and scored 16 of the 30 points. Carl Bryant got two clever goals in the second half when the score was close. Both guards, Bryant in particular, were unfortunate in choosing the time to leave their men. Hebron played a fast game with no star visible. Green threw eight baskets, to be sure, but did not join in the mixups. A peculiar feature of the game was the fact that in the first half Colby did the better passing but came out behind. In the second half Hebron passed the ball remarkably well and played all around their opponents at times but long pauses and long shots for goals put us in the lead.

The game started well for Colby for the ball went straight to H. Bryant who, after one failure, threw a goal. But the awakening came quickly. Hebron threw seven baskets in succession in about as many minutes. It looked bad but John began to wave his side-whiskers and the tide turned. John threw his first one, then A. Bryant, then two more hard ones by John, while Hebron only got one. Meanwhile C. Bryant had thrown one foul and Coombs two to Hebron's one. Then came a lull and just before the whistle blew Spencer caged a nice one leaving the score 17 to 15 in Hebron's favor.

Hebron drew first blood in the second half but John was on the spot with one from the center. Then he tried again

and threw over onto the stage but got a point for interference. Hebron scored the next point but the side-whiskers were still in the game and a pretty shot from the side kept us in the running. Hebron again put in one but John evened up so they made it one more. Carl Bryant then took his turn and three of the prettiest goals of the evening took away Hebron's chance. Green threw the last basket and the score was 30 to 25. The summary:

COLBY.	HEBRON.
Spencer, rf	If, Tribou
L. Bryant, lf	rf, Green
Coombs, c	c, Robinson
C. Bryant, lg	rg, McFarlane
Thompson, rg	lg, Jackson

Score—Colby, 30; Hebron, 25. Goals from field—Green 8, Coombs, 6, C. Bryant, 3, L. Bryant, 2, Tribou, 2, Spencer, McFarlane, Jackson. Fouls called—on Spencer, 2, H. Bryant, 3, Tribou, 2, Robinson, 3, McFarlane, 4, Coombs, Thompson, Green, Jackson. Points from fouls—Colby, 5; Hebron, 1. Officials—Lehn of Portland and Pugsley of Colby. Time—20-minute periods.

## A NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST.

College students all over the country are becoming interested in a proposed oratorical contest which is to be held at the World's Fair next autumn to determine the champion college orator of the United States. Students of the Missouri State University are perfecting a plan for the creation of an interstate oratorical league, for the holding of preliminary contests, and for the successful conduct of the supreme contest at St. Louis.

That the winner will become widely known cannot be doubted. All the world loves a lover—and an orator. The man who can sway an audience by his eloquence is ever popular. The ability "the applause of listening senates to command" is admired and honored everywhere. Therefore it may be expected that the young man who shall win in this national contest of oratory will find himself most prominently before an approving public.

Oratorical contests between American college students have for many years formed an important part of the collegiate life. Until football and other athletic rivalries became so overwhelmingly popular, oratory was of even higher importance than it is at present, and some of the most eminent men of American affairs began their careers in such competitions.

For twenty-five years and more there has been in existence in the Middle Western states an Interstate Oratorical Association. One of the winners in the interstate competitions held by this association is William Jennings Bryan, who represented an Illinois college in the early days of the association.

United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana is another example of the successful public speaker, who began his career during his college days. He, like Mr. Bryan, won the interstate championship, and with it a wide-spread reputation.

Still another instance may be given—Dr. J. H. Finly, president of the University of the City of New York. Twenty years ago when a student at Knox College he represented that institution at the interstate contest, and won the championship. His career since leaving college has been one of steady advancement.

Such instances as these should spur our college men to their best efforts in the coming event at St. Louis, where the winner will surely become a national hero.

R. Love.

# THE COLBY ECHO.

Published Fridays during the college year by the students of Colby College.

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Circumstances have arisen which make it impossible for the Colby Club to take charge of this week's issue of THE ECHO. The committee of the Colby Club chosen for this purpose have been unable to secure the necessary material, but it is expected that they will be able to carry out the proposed plan in a few weeks.

Basket-ball has been unavoidably pushed to the wall for this term and the gymnasium is undergoing repairs but it does not follow that all athletic exercise should be suspended in consequence. We have engaged an excellent track coach and preparations are made for a creditable showing at the meet next spring. If the track men wait until the beginning of next term before they commence to train, however, it will be too late to accomplish good results. In some colleges the track men run out of doors during the winter term and why should not we do the same? With a little effort the board walks could be thoroughly cleaned of snow and the springy surface would form an excellent outdoor track. Surely the idea is worthy of consideration.

Has the spell at last been broken and are we to have debating teams once more? So it would seem from the challenge which appears in this week's number. Whether accepted or not, this challenge is a start in the right direction. Our literary activities have been growing fewer and fewer during recent years and debating was one of the first to succumb. This is not as it should be. One of our Maine colleges has a regular course in debating, another has always been renowned in this branch of college activities, but we have fallen sadly behind of late. Why should this be so? In the past our debating teams have made a most creditable showing. Are we inferior in mental gifts to former students? Or is it because no determined effort has been made to arouse interest in this exercise? The latter seems to us the more logical reason, but it is a poor excuse. There is nothing which develops penetration, alertness, poise, and power of expression more than debating. It is not enough for a collegian to amass

knowledge, he must learn to use it—to turn what he knows to practical value—and there are few exercises in which knowledge can be used to such advantage as in debating. The account of a national oratorical contest which appears in another column is of interest in this connection. Of course it is not to be supposed that any member of our college could compete under present conditions, but the proposed contest shows the wide importance which debating holds in our nation. It is too late to organize a college debating team this year but let us hope that this challenge is but the preliminary to a series of well-conducted and ably contested debates between the different classes which may pave the way for a 'varsity team next year.

The men of the College in a meeting held after the chapel exercises, Wednesday morning, requested President White to write President Fellows a letter expressing their sympathy to the students of the University of Maine who suffered loss in the burning of University Hall. President White's letter is as follows:

My dear Pres. Fellows:—

The men of Colby College have learned with deep regret of the loss which the students of the University of Maine have sustained in the fire which destroyed their dormitory. May I ask you to kindly inform me the approximate loss which has come to the young gentlemen?

We are deeply grateful that all escaped without personal harm, and we trust that out of this serious interruption and affliction, great good may result to your University. The ideal relations which exist between University of Maine and Colby only intensifies our personal interest at this time.

I am writing these lines on behalf of the Colby students and will you please extend to the men of the University of Maine our profound sympathy and best wishes.

Faternally yours,  
C. L. WHITE.

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## INTERCOLLEGIATE NOTES.

The New York College of Pharmacy is to become a part of Columbia University according to plans now nearing completion.

Dartmouth is to have a new dormitory early in the spring. The building will be of brick, three stories high, and will accommodate eighty students. The rooms will be provided with private toilets.

Alumni of Union College are planning a symbol to be worn by graduates of that institution. Among the designs suggested are a button bearing an engraving of the "round building" and a watch-guard-slide with the college seal.

The eleventh Yale-Princeton debate is to take place on March 25th, at Princeton. The question is as follows: Resolved, that the Government of the United States was warranted in recognizing the independence of the republic of Panama."

Three new buildings are rapidly nearing completion at Yale—the Vanderbilt dormitory, Kirtland Hall and the Lampson Lyceum. The first two are for the use of Sheffield Scientific School; the third is for the college department.

The senior class at Yale is seriously considering the wisdom of doing away with the reading of class histories on the campus on Class Day. For several years the reading has consumed so much time that the audience has dwindled to almost no one near the end. The plan is to cut out the history altogether, or to bring it within reasonable time limits.

Northwestern University proposes to institute a new basis of scholarship award. The idea is to encourage with pecuniary aid students who give promise of attaining positions of influence and accomplishment though they may rank lower than others in their mastery of their studies. In other words, personality is to be taken into account as well as mere mental superiority.

The baseball schedule of the University of Maine has just been announced, and is as follows:

- April 23—Holy Cross, at Worcester.
- " 25—Tufts, at College Hill.
- " 27—Harvard, at Cambridge.
- " 28—Amherst, at Amherst.
- " 30—Brown, at Providence.
- May 3—Bowdoin, at Orono.
- " 7—Bowdoin, at Brunswick.
- " 9—Tufts, at Orono.
- " 11—Colby, at Waterville.
- " 12—Bates, at Lewiston.
- " 18—Dartmouth, at Hanover.
- " 25—Colby, at Orono.
- " 28—Bates, at Orono.

## A CHALLENGE.

To the men of 1905:

We, the men of 1900, do hereby challenge the men of 1905 to a joint debate.

V. MERLE JONES  
CHAS. N. MEADER  
FRID. E. HUTCHINS  
Ex. Com. of the class.

Colby College, Feb. 12, 1904.

## ALUMNI NOTES.

'95, Henry W. Nichols has been elected principal of the New Bedford Textile School.

'02, Saunders, now instructor in a military academy at Nyack-on-the-Hudson, visited friends on the campus the first of the week. Mr. Saunders will enter Columbia in the near future.

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For catalogue apply to  
ALFRED MITCHELL, M.D., Dean  
BRUNSWICK, ME., July 24, 1903.

## CAMPUS CHAT.

Betts, '07, preached at Hartland, Sunday.

Clark, '05, spent Sunday with his uncle in Augusta.

Coombs, '06, has been spending a few days with friends in Freeport.

Keene, '04, came here to attend the Hebron-Colby basket-ball game.

The freshman basket-ball team have elected Newman, captain, and A. K. Stetson, manager.

Misses Jessie and Harriet White took supper with Miss Berry at Ladies' Hall Saturday evening.

Keene, '06, addressed the Christian Associations of Kent's Hill Seminary last Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. A. E. Shepherd of this city, formerly of Rockland, took dinner at Ladies' Hall, Tuesday.

Paul E. Powers, a student at Houlton high school visited his brother, Powers, '07, the first of the week.

Decoster F. Bennett, a senior at Hebron Academy, spent Sunday at the "Bricks" as the guest of friends.

The freshman basket-ball team played a game with the Fairfield high school team at Fairfield, Tuesday night. They were defeated by the score of 12 to 14.

The Colby Dramatic Club has chosen for its play "A Night Off" and it will be put on the boards the last of the term.

Miss Emory, '07, who went to her home in Norridgewock to spend Sunday, has been detained at home by illness.

Mrs. E. F. Caswell received a short visit from her sister, Mrs. M. G. Whitney, of Bingham, the first of the week.

Miss Lamb, '05, received a visit from her mother, Mrs. N. J. Lamb, of Sangerville, from Friday of last week until Monday.

W. B. Mower, '05, left Thursday, for New York, where he will attend the annual convention of the Theta Delta Chi fraternity.

Prof. Roberts delivered his lecture on "The Bible as Literature" at the Court Street Baptist church in Portland, last Monday evening.

The twenty-third annual reunion of the Boston Colby Alumni Association will be held at the Hotel Brunswick, Boston, Monday afternoon, Feb. 22.

Fogg, '00, athletic instructor at Hebron Academy, came down with the basket-ball team and was the guest of friends at the "Bricks" over Sunday.

Miss Fuller, '06, is so far recovered from her recent illness as to be able to leave her room. She is spending the week at the home of her former classmate Miss Drake.

The basket-ball team has disbanded and the schedule has been cancelled, because of the illness of several members of the team and there being no place to practice.

A very pleasant evening was spent at the Commons last Saturday evening at a sociable given by the college. Many of the students from both divisions were present. Games of various kinds were indulged in.

Immediate action is to be taken to reorganize the old reading room association which in late years seems to have dropped out of existence. The reading room for the past few years has been run in rather an unbusiness like manner. Enough money is at the disposal of the reading room committee to furnish the reading room as well as any in the state.

A very pleasant event occurred at Dutton House last Saturday evening when seven of the ladies of the sophomore class gave a valentine party to some of their friends from the men's division. The decorations and amusements of the evening were all character-

istic of St. Valentine's Day. Refreshments of punch and wafers were served. Appropriate souvenirs, the work of Miss Townsend, were presented at the close of the evening.

The eve of St. Valentine's Day was observed in a unique manner at Ladies' Hall. The dining-room was prettily decorated with festoons of red hearts, pots of red tulips adorned the tables, and supper was eaten by the light of wax candles, four on each table. One of the most pleasing features of the the evening was the presentation of an appropriate valentine to each one of the young women. The valentines were made by Miss Butman.

The item which appeared in last week's issue may have given a false impression as to the reason for Dr. Black's prolonged absence. Dr. Black had no securities which were imperilled by the fire but was detained by business connected with his father's estate. Dr. Black returned to this city last Sunday, but was immediately recalled by the death of a relative. Examinations have been held in his courses this week, however, under the direction of President White.

A meeting of the men was called Friday morning after chapel exercises to see what action should be taken about continuing the basket-ball schedule under the present conditions. The gymnasium is undergoing repairs and with no place to practice it would seem advisable to disband the team. After a discussion the matter was left to be referred to the committee on athletics for settlement.

The junior class held a meeting Wednesday afternoon to see what action they should take in regard to the class gift, the junior "prom," and the junior sociable. Three committees were appointed, one to decide whether or not there should be a class gift, the second to arrange for the "prom," and the third to arrange the program for a sociable. The committees were appointed as follows: gift com., Miss Gifford, Miss Smith, and Mr. Hoyt; "prom" com., Mr. Jones, Mr. Clark, and Miss Keen; entertainment com., Miss Richardson, Miss Allen, Miss Moor, Mr. Coy, and Mr. Maxfield.

Sunday was the day of prayer for colleges and it was observed at Colby in the usual way. In the morning, Rev. E. C. Whittemore preached a very inspiring sermon from text, John 17: 4. In the afternoon a meeting was held in the college chapel at which Pres. White presided. Rev. Mr. Whittemore offered prayer and Prof. Hatch delivered the address which was well-suited to the occasion. The evening devotional meeting was held as usual at the Baptist vestry. Prof. Beck was leader. At the evening service Rev. Mr. Whittemore took for his subject, "Has the Day of Prayer for Colleges lost its Significance?"

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