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The Track Team.

**Plenty of Men, Plenty of Money,
But the Track is Lacking.**

Ever since our University has been large enough and strong enough to organize and maintain creditable teams in the departments of foot ball and base ball, it has been the dream of those who were the most ambitious for our athletic life to see as creditable teams in the departments of Tennis and Track Athletics.

In regard to Tennis, through the efforts of a few, we have been enabled to show that we are head and neck with any Tennis team of the Southern Colleges. And we are very glad to hear of the continued efforts of the Tennis Association to advance this scientific and manly game by intercollegiate tournaments.

This is the only way by which we can expect to rival the Northern colleges and we hope to see their plans carried out.

But in regard to organizing a Track team, we have met many obstacles, the main one being that our Athletic Association has not been financially able to take any definite steps. But, though this obstacle looked for a long time as if it were insurmountable, it is not. For an amount sufficient to organize the team was given last term by one of our fellow students, who has always shown that he had the best interest of the University at heart.

A captain was then elected. He is one whom we all recognize to be the man for place—as a man of experience and one presenting an unusual amount of push and energy.

So far, so good. But alas no farther. For some reason or other, those to whom the construction of the track was intrusted, have, as far as we can judge, failed even to make a start on the work, or at least they have failed to do more than make a start. And more than this we have not been able to ascertain.

We can find no reason assigned for the delay and we do know many reasons for the immediate execution of the plan.

To-day, the college in general is enthusiastic in regard to the move and we think they wish to see it amount to something. And this enthusiasm can not last if it is to be discouraged and balked in this manner.

Then, too, there is a need here for track athletics and this need increases with the University. So that it is natural to suppose that this department will come sooner or later. But we do not think that it is unreasonable to say that now is the best time. For now we have the opportunity of organizing a team without expense to the Athletic Association; we have a man fully qualified for Captain; we have plenty of good material and plenty of enthusiasm. And all that it needed to put out a good team is that the college support them, which it is

ready to do, that the men may not feel anxious about this delay. For with it staring them in the face they at least have little inducement offered to do hard conscientious work.

And there is, apart from the condition of affairs in college, on important reason why we should delay no longer. It is now the first of Feb. and the work and perfection of it will require time and several weeks of it.

So, if we are to have a track team, let's do it now. If those having the matter in charge, are too much burdened with more onerous duties, we would suggest to them that there are several, among the Faculty or students who could and would undertake and accomplish the work so necessary to the organizing of the team.

Let some of them make this preparation and we predict that the men themselves will not let us be ashamed of them on Field Day.

Shakespeare Club.

The Shakespeare Club was called to order for its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday night, Feb. 5th. by President Hume. The Roll was called and the minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Messrs. Gregory '96, Hill '97, Jno. Andrews, '97 and A. S. Dyer were elected to membership.

After some pleasing introductory remarks by the president the following papers were read:

Mrs. Browning's Prometheus Bound by J. W. Canada,

The gentleman in a scholarly and thoughtful manner compared Mrs. Browning's translation with the original of Aeschylus. A translation must render the effect of its original. The outline of the tragedy was given; Aeschylus style and difficulty of rendering it was shown.

Mrs. Browning admirably renders Aeschylus, being literal and preserving the spirit, but in imagery, sublimity grandeur and in the slow iambic, Aeschylus escapes her.

The source of the plot in *Romco and Juliet* by Mr. Brown Shepherd.

Shakespeare is due the poem of Arthur Brooke *Romeus and Juliet*, every thing except the dramatic form, poetic decoration and, the character of Mercutio.

This poem of Brooke is of great power and beauty. It contains 4800 lines.

Passages were read from Brooke and Shakespeare to show similarity of treatment.

Two Lovers by Mr. Shannonhouse.

Romeo's love for Roslyn has the irresolution and hasty indecision of an affection of the eye not of the heart; while his love for Juliet has the simplicity and seriousness of real love.

"The child has mixed in him those elements which make him a man.

There being no further business before the Club it adjourned at 8:30 P. M.

A Suggestion.

The present discussion of March examinations calls to mind an idea which we think should be strongly emphasized in this day when the progressive spirit is so prevalent.

Whether we have March examination; we are sure to have them for some time, and plenty of them.

The gradation and co-ordination of studies form a progressive system; examinations are tests and records of this mental progress.

We have a systematic course of gymnasium work but we have no method of recording this physical progress. We are not here advocating physical examinations which it would require a certain grade to pass.

It would be ludicrous to conceive of a student exercising his stiff limbs and soft muscles for a week or so before such an examination with the endeavor to "get through."

The "cramming" up of neglected physical work would be ridiculous to think of. But we think a practical suggestion can be made along this line.

That, at least once every year, the complete physical record of each student be made out by gymnasium director and kept on file—which records will give each student an exact statement of his physical development during his college life.

As a student he is naturally most deeply concerned in his own rounded development—these records would serve as permanent incentives to a proper development of the physical.

A student would obtain a certain individual athletic interest—he would naturally strive to surpass previous records and not to remain stagnant in this respect, while the fact that it would enlighten the students knowledge of his body is no minor consideration. I dare say there are not a dozen students who know their measurements beyond the length of their new trousers, or the tail of their coat nor who know what is considered a good measurement for any part of the body.

Such physical examinations are in many schools in this country—a Harvard there is a very detailed system for measuring the minute parts of the body. We could at first only have recorded the weight, height and ordinary body measurements.

In time, such appliances as lung tests, grip tests, etc., could be applied. It is certain that a majority of the students must be interested in their physical progress, such an interest is a crying need with many.

If such a system of examination and record will only interest him in this respect, by making him acquainted with his correct physical capacity and, stimulating him to perfect his physique and improve his physical being—it will have helped fill one of our important needs and have served no small end.

Moreover such records might be of great services in cases of subsequent prolonged spells of disease—besides serving as data for statistics etc.

The Moot Congress.

An Interesting Session of a "New Thing" Held Last Monday.

The Law Class has sprung quite an interesting innovation upon the University in the shape of a "Moot Congress" which is to hold its sessions regularly every Monday afternoon. It will not be any conflict with the Moot Court, nor lesson the interest in it, but will be a distinct feature. The Moot Congress was organized last Saturday with Mr. Robt. Dalby, of Oxford, as Speaker; Mr. Settle Dockery, of Rockingham, as Clerk; and Mr. R. T. Hurley, of Troy, as Sergeant-at-Arms.

The first session was held Monday and it afforded lots of pleasure and profit to both members and spectators. The Speaker announced his committees and the house was declared open for business. Mr. Bellamy, quite a talented young member and easily one of the most fluent Congressman in the house, was recognized by the Speaker and introduced a resolution heartily endorsing Mr. Cleveland's action in the Venezuelan dispute as being "manly, patriotic and thoroughly American." The resolution was referred to the Committee on Domestic Affairs, and was reported favorably. By suspension of the rules it was immediately brought up for the third reading.

But now the smooth sailing of the resolution was over. Mr. Bellamy, in a speech of some length, admirably defended his resolution and was liberally applauded for his loyalty and patriotism—as shown by his timely and eloquent remarks.

Congressman Smith followed Mr. Bellamy and astonished his hearers. He thought the resolution involved a question "grave and serious" and had soon convinced his hearers that his view was correct.

Congressman Dockery proved himself to be anything but a bashful member, making several short talks in opposition to the resolution; quoting George Washington as opposed to "tangling alliances" and maintaining that the Monroe Doctrine did not apply in this instance.

Mr. Mitchell, red and rosy, often arose to a point of order, sometimes being sustained by the speaker.

Final action on the resolution was postponed till the next session.

The sessions are open to the entire College but none except members are permitted to participate in the proceedings. The Moot Congress will likely serve a good purpose, make more versatile speakers of its members and familiarize them with the leading questions of the day.

The Congressmen are much enthused over the prospect of settling at an early date several of the graver problems now before the American public. The principal business before the next session is the further discussion and final action on Mr. Bellamy's resolution and the consideration of a bill by Mr. Dockery to recognize "bleeding Cuba" as free and independent.

The members are: Barnes, Bellamy, Carr, Dalby, Dockery, Godwin, Grimes, Hare, Harrell, Hurley, Mitchell, Park, Presnell, Raby, Rose, Smith, Stamey. The membership will not be confined to the law class, but the applications of other students of the University will be considered and if the applicant is thought to be "Congressional material" he will be seated.