

CORNELL ALUMNI NEWS

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A UNIVERSITY STANDARD SET.

Association of American Universities
Adopts Criteria for Determining an
Institution's Rank—First-Class Col-
leges also to Be Listed.

A very important action, which may be said to mark an epoch in the higher education in America, was taken at the ninth annual conference of the Association of American Universities at Ann Arbor on Thursday, January 9. This action was the adoption of a standard to which universities not now members of the Association must conform before being admitted to membership. Such a step may not, at first sight, seem very important or very significant. Its importance and significance of course depend on the value to be attached to membership in the Association. Recent events, which shall be related, make such membership in fact highly desirable. The action of the Association will amount in effect to a standardization of the American university. The standard adopted may be better understood if the circumstances which led the Association to take such a step are first told.

RECOGNITION FROM ABROAD.

The Association of American Universities consisted, when the recent conference assembled, of the following institutions: The University of California, the Catholic University of America, the University of Chicago, Clark University, Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Stanford, Virginia, Wisconsin and Yale. It was organized about nine years ago, and at first concerned itself largely and almost exclusively with matters relating to graduate schools. From year to year its deliberations were extended to broader questions of educational policy and its membership was increased.

About a year ago a new and unexpected duty was imposed upon the Association. The governments of the Netherlands and Prussia gave notice that they would hereafter recognize the universities which were members of the Association and would refuse recognition to those which were not. Hitherto the authorities of foreign universities had often been in great perplexity when required to pass upon the credentials of students coming from various American institutions. American ambassadors were constantly called upon for information as to the standing of this or that college or university, and the final result was the utmost confusion. So the two governments mentioned saw in the Association a welcome means of relief from their perplexities; henceforth they would recognize only its members. Of course this made it the duty of the Association not to exclude any institution worthy the name university and therefore, the Association had first to find a definition of the name. At the same time applications for membership were coming from institutions which recognized the Association's value and importance, and it became necessary to set up a standard for measuring applicants for membership.

TWO UNIVERSITY REQUISITES.

At the eighth conference, held in Cambridge, Mass., in November, 1906, a Committee on the Aim and Scope of the Association was appointed. It consisted of the representatives of Harvard, Cornell, Pennsylvania, Columbia and Wisconsin. President Eliot of Harvard was the chairman of this committee. It referred to a sub-committee the work of drawing up a report. Of this sub-committee President Schurman was chairman. Dr. Schurman wrote the report, it was signed by his fellow members on the committee, and at last week's conference it was unanimously adopted by the Association.

Two criteria were selected by which the rank of universities is hereafter to be determined. These are, briefly, the maintenance of a strong graduate department (formerly the sole condition of membership) and the requirement of one or more years of college work as a prerequisite for admission to professional courses. The committee reported in part as follows:

"At various times in the past institutions have applied for membership and have been refused. At the last conference of the Association the opinion was expressed by several delegates that the Association could not hold to the narrow definition of its purpose as originally conceived and retain its vitality and usefulness. And they expressed the view that an extension of its membership was both desirable and necessary. The problem devolving upon this committee is the determination of suitable conditions of eligibility to be applied in the admission of new members. The task is nothing less than the finding of criteria for the standardizing of American universities.

A PROFESSIONAL COURSE STANDARD.

"Your committee have given a good deal of consideration to the problem, in which they have been materially aided by statistics and other information furnished by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, to which they desire to express their deep indebtedness. They have had before them tables concerning American universities with entries showing the number of members of their faculty and teaching staff, the amount of their endowment, their annual income, the number of students registered in their different courses, the requirements for admission to their undergraduate colleges and their professional schools, the enrollment in their graduate schools, and the maximum, minimum and average salaries of their professors and assistant professors.

"Of all the matters considered, the educational standards which any

university maintains are in the estimation of your committee the most important. Hitherto this Association has made the existence of a strong graduate department the sole condition of membership. Your committee believe that if the Association is to undertake—as they think it should undertake—the standardizing of American universities, another criterion should also be enforced. The policy contemplated has to do with the conditions of admission to professional courses. Your committee are of the opinion that the best American universities will in the future rest their professional courses on a basis of college work, which shall range from one to four years, and that the professional student will spend at least five or six years in study from the day he matriculates in the college to the day he receives his professional degree. Your committee accordingly recommend that the Association adopt as a second criterion for membership the requirement of one or more years of college work as a prerequisite for admission to professional courses, the combination being so arranged that no professional degree shall be given until the satisfactory completion of at least five years of study.

“The ideal of your committee is the combination of this requirement with the present requirement of a strong graduate school as a condition for membership in this Association. But they recognize that a strict enforcement of *both* requirements might work substantial hardship at the present time. Nevertheless they think that in universities which have professional schools and a graduate department it is not too much to ask at the present time that the graduate department shall be at least creditable and that the arts and technical work prescribed for professional degrees in at least *one* professional school shall be not less than five years. It is the thought of your committee that if this dual standard of admission be now accepted by the Association it may be possible to enforce it with increasing strictness as the years go by.

“Your committee strongly believe that it is the duty of this Association to admit outstanding American universities as soon as they satisfy the criteria which have been laid down by the committee. Foreign govern-

ments, more particularly the Prussian and Dutch, now recognize the universities which are members of this Association and refuse recognition of those which are not. It is the duty of this Association either to standardize American universities, and thus justify the confidence which *foreign governments repose in them*, or to notify those governments that there are American universities outside this Association whose work and standing are not inferior to universities now members of the Association.”

TO STANDARDIZE THE COLLEGES.

After adopting this report the Association admitted to membership the Universities of Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri. Then the life of the committee was extended and it was instructed to make a study of universities not now within the Association with a view to determining which are worthy of membership. And this led to still another duty which was placed on the committee, namely, the task of making a list of the *colleges* of the country whose degrees the Association may declare to be of equal value with the college degrees conferred by the universities now embraced in the membership. As the committee had said in its report, the colleges of America are suffering from the interpretation which foreign governments have put upon the existence and work of the Association. The best of them even find that their degrees are not recognized by foreign governments even to the extent of permitting their graduates to matriculate in foreign universities, on the ground that they are not members of the Association of American Universities.

An example of this came to the attention of Cornell University only a few months ago. A graduate of a small but excellent and venerable American college presented his diploma at a German university and applied for admission. His application was denied, whereupon he expressed astonishment and said that *this same diploma had admitted him to Cornell University*, where he had pursued several terms of graduate study. He was then told that a certificate that he had pursued such

study at Cornell would be accepted in lieu of examination. He obtained a letter from Dean Crane and was admitted, simply because the German authorities recognized Cornell as a member of the Association of American Universities.

The Committee on Aim and Scope had expressed the opinion that the simplest way of correcting any such injustice would be to make a list of what might be called first-class colleges. As the committee had also pointed out, a further and still more convincing reason existed for undertaking the work of standardizing American colleges in the fact that universities hereafter admitted to membership are to be required to rest their professional courses on college work.

The importance of the task with which this committee is charged does not need demonstration. It cannot make an authoritative list of standard American colleges until it has defined the standard or norm to which they must conform. To do this it must determine what is a satisfactory course of study leading up to a college degree. In a word, it must establish a uniform academic ideal—a thing which America has not had. All this will be the committee's task during the coming year.

Guest of Detroit Alumni.

While he was in Michigan last week for the conference of the Association of American Universities at Ann Arbor, President Schurman went to Detroit and was entertained on Friday evening by the Cornell Alumni Association and also by the University Club of that city.

Professor William Arnold Anthony has received a pension under the Carnegie Foundation. Professor Anthony was head of the department of physics at Cornell from 1872 to 1887. Since the latter year he has been a consulting electrician in New York city and professor of physics in the Cooper Union Schools of Science.

NEW PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH.

Martin Wright Sampson Appointed for the Second Term.

Professor Martin Wright Sampson, who was for twelve years head of the department of English at the University of Indiana, has been appointed acting professor of English Literature for the second term of this academic year. During the past year, Professor Sampson has been travelling, studying and writing in England and Germany.

Although still a young man, Professor Sampson has had a wide experience as a teacher of English. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with the class of 1888. By special permission of the faculty, his senior year was passed in Germany, chiefly at the University of Munich. Upon his return to Cincinnati, he pursued graduate study in English literature under Professor J. M. Hart until in 1889 he was called to the University of Iowa as an assistant professor. In 1891 he became acting head of the English department at that university. Afterward he was an associate professor at Stanford University, whence he was called in 1894 to take charge of the English department at Indiana.

During his twelve years of service at Indiana Professor Sampson is said to have succeeded in developing his department to a high degree of efficiency. Instruction both in literature and composition was raised to a high plane. Upon the teachers of the state, too, his work and personality made a deep impression and the schools of the state were thereby brought into closer and more intimate relations with the university.

Professor Sampson is the author interest in athletics. For several years he was the chairman of the committee on athletics at Indiana, and he also represented that university at the Intercollegiate Conference of Western Universities commonly called the "Big Nine." For a number of years he was secretary

of the conference and for one year its president.

Professor Sampson is the author of a manual of composition and has edited several volumes, including Milton's lyric and dramatic poems and John Webster's plays, "The White Devil" and "The Duchess of Malfi."

To Row at Cambridge.

Cornell has been invited by Harvard to take part in a dual eight-oared race at Cambridge next spring and has accepted the invitation. The arrangements for the race have not yet been completed. It will take place on the Charles river late in May. It has been announced at Cambridge that Harvard will not meet Columbia on the water this year. A race has been arranged between the Crimson eight and the Annapolis crew, to take place on the Severn on April 22.

Crew practice began in the Armory last week. Forty-five men have registered for the 'varsity and about fifty for the freshman eight. Three of last year's 'varsity eight have been lost by graduation—W. S. Newman, C. J. Goodier and W. S. Stowell, besides the coxswain, W. G. Taylor. The other five 'varsity veterans, Bromley, Cox, Dods, Gavett and Gracy, are registered in this year's squad.

Defeat in Basketball.

The 'varsity basketball team was defeated by the Columbia University five in the Armory last Saturday evening after a hard fought contest. The final score was 23 to 17. Cornell's team work was good, but the visitors were steadier and excelled in individual skill. Kiendl, one of the Columbia forwards, was the star of the evening, scoring five goals from the field and throwing seven goals from fouls. The first half was closely contested, ending with a score of 10 to 8 in favor of the visitors. This was Cornell's first game in the intercollegiate league series. Columbia had already beaten Princeton.

NEW EAST HILL FIRE HOUSE.

Thoroughly Modern in Equipment and Organization—Five Student Members.

East Hill in Ithaca, where most of the University community lives, now has a fire company which is on duty all the time, and apparatus stationed where it can reach any part of the hill within a very few minutes after an alarm is given. No longer is it necessary to wait for hose and ladders to be dragged up from downtown. This protection, for which the hill has been praying for years, it owes chiefly to the hard work of a few citizens, who have kept the subject before the Common Council and the Fire Commissioners. After a series of disastrous fires on the hill last winter the taxpayers of Ithaca, at a special election, appropriated \$20,000 for new fire fighting equipment, most of this money to be expended on East Hill.

About \$15,000 has been spent in building and fitting up a three-story structure at Huestis street and Dryden road as quarters for Hose Company No. 9 of the Ithaca Fire Department. New apparatus, consisting of a combination hose cart and chemical engine and a hook and ladder truck, has been purchased and placed in the house, together with two teams of horses. Ten members of the company, including the two paid drivers, live in the house. Of the other eight who live there five are students in the University. They get their rooms free in consideration of their service as firemen.

The ground floor of the building contains the stables and apparatus. The equipment is thoroughly modern, consisting of electric gongs, drop harness, etc. Two slide poles lead from the sleeping rooms of the firemen on the second floor. These quarters have been furnished in such a way as to make them attractive to the student members of the company, who have study rooms and such luxuries as a piano, telephones and shower baths. On the third floor are the living rooms of the two drivers.

The house is so wired that an

alarm of fire is sounded in every room. At night ten men are ready for an instant response to a call from any part of the hill. A steamer is not included in the equipment of the company, for two reasons: first, the hill is too steep for such a heavy piece of apparatus to be handled easily, and, second, a steamer is not really needed. A pressure of sixty pounds is kept up in the East Hill water mains all the time, and just as soon as an alarm of fire is given on the hill the pumps in Six Mile Creek gorge are set at work and the pressure is increased to 120 pounds within a few minutes.

Every day the fire company is put through a drill. The fraternity houses and boarding and rooming houses on the hill may now feel reasonably sure, in case of fire, of having hose and ladders at hand within five minutes after an alarm.

Another Faculty Editor.

At the convention of the American Economic Association held at Madison, Wis., during the holidays, Dr. Edwin Walter Kemmerer, professor of political economy, was appointed managing editor of a new publication to be issued quarterly by the Association and to be known as the *Economic Bulletin*. This periodical will be chiefly bibliographical in character, containing book notices and reviews, special notes regarding investigations in economics and miscellaneous notes of general interest to economists. Professor Kemmerer will be assisted by a staff of about twenty leading economists, among them being Professor Fetter, who has been chairman of the committee on publications for the past few years. The first number of the *Bulletin* will be issued about May 1.

The sophomores had a class dinner in the Dutch Kitchen last Saturday evening. Professor C. F. Hirshfeld acted as toastmaster and the principal speaker was Coach Moakley.

The freshmen are making plans for their class banquet.

SCOTTISH VIEW OF CORNELL.

Some Impressions Which a Foreign Visitor Carried Away from Ithaca.

(From the *Glasgow Herald*, Dec. 14)

Cornell announces itself from afar. A city that is set upon a hill cannot be hid; and Cornell, judged by the American standard which makes a village a town, and any community over the 3000 population-mark a city, deserves the title. The first thing to be noted about Cornell is that it has the most picturesque situation of all American Universities. If you look pretty closely at a large map of the United States, you will find, in the north-west corner of New York State, and not far from the south-eastern extremity of Lake Ontario, a number of parallel scratches, running nearly north and south. A nearer examination will reveal the fact that there are names attached to these scratches. When you reach them, at the end of some eight hours in the train, from New York, they disclose themselves as lakes, about forty miles long, and from one to four miles broad. Individually they would dwarf Loch Lomond. Even when grouped they shrink together into a corner, away from their huge neighbors. One of these lakelets is called Cayuga. At the foot of it lies Ithaca, a flourishing "city" of 15,000 inhabitants. Cornell looks down upon Ithaca, and over the lake, from a sheer hillside, 400 ft. high. From the clock-tower of the University the view of the lake and the woodlands that frame it, in all the glory of autumn foliage, is of unsurpassable beauty. The roofs and chimneys of Ithaca, almost hidden by her trees, climb towards the foot of the hill upon a regular and unbroken curve. It is as if a giant had taken up a huge chess-board, inlaid in delicate white and grey and green, and bent it symmetrically before laying it down again. Many of the beauties of Cornell have to be sought out. The hill lies between two deep gorges, which hold a larger number of cascades and waterfalls than is to be found any-

where within an equal space. The student may forget much that he learned here, after he is gone out into the world, but Cornell itself he will always remember. . . .

From the small beginnings of forty years ago, when the College drew together a handful of farmers' sons, many of them ill-equipped for any kind of study, Cornell has climbed to an honourable place among American Universities, and to the first rank as a technical college. That is the second point to be noted about Cornell. The sharpest impression one carries away from it is a picture of a highly-developed technical school, with a College of Arts as appendix, which might almost be removed without serious danger to the body to which it belongs. . . . The impression obtained in the course of a walk round the hill is confirmed by a glance at the University statistics. Cornell's student population is, roundly, 3,500. Of that number the Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering, which includes naval architecture and the department of electrical engineering first established in the United States, rounds in over 1,000. The departments of civil engineering, agriculture, with its allied branches of architecture, absorb another third. The Colleges of Law and of Medicine—whose senior students take their clinical work in New York—account for 500 students, and thus less than a quarter of the community is pursuing a liberal education. Cornell lives up to its early reputation for "godlessness" by having no school of divinity. . . .

Cornell gave me my first introduction in the States to what, in academic slang, is described as "a co-ed shop." On the average there are some 350 women students on the books of the University—about a-tenth of the whole population. Some 200 are accommodated on the campus itself, in Sage Hall. Perhaps this may be one reason for the Cornell man's attitude of aloofness and indifference towards the woman student, in this respect more highly favored. The male student who does not obtain election to a Fraternity

has to lodge in Ithaca and climb the hill daily.

Cornell's chief distinction in athletics is supremacy in rowing. In that department it stands even higher than Yale does in football. This fact is apt to be hidden from the Briton by the appearance of Harvard on the Thames against the winner of the University boat-race. But Cornell has ceased to compete with the two older American universities, only after beating them conclusively on the water. One highly significant fact, in relation to University athletics as a whole, is that the first playground at Cornell, for the use of students who are not members of the University teams, has recently been completed, largely at the cost of former students. This means that heretofore only the merest fraction of the student community has had a direct personal interest in athletics. One might put it in this way, that out of 3,000 men students, 120 have specialized in athletics, have become semi-professionals, and have taken possession of the athletic grounds and equipment, including trainers and coaches, while the student population as a whole has been content to watch this little group of men, and applaud their prowess. The reaction against a system manifestly vicious has begun, and the Cornell undergraduate who does not regard games as the chief end of University life will shortly be in possession of a twenty-acre playground. Apart from games, however, freshmen and sophomores are required to take systematic physical and military training, while older students "may elect it,"—which sounds as if gymnastics might be taken as a soft option.

Cornell is no exception to the general observation that the library equipment of American Universities is on a much more liberal scale than with us, while every possible means is taken, by free access to large sections of the shelving, by the establishment of departmental libraries and commodious and comfortable reading-rooms, open during the evening as well as through the day,

to make books accessible and encourage students to use them. One feature in the construction of the library, which contains some 400,000 volumes, and includes the Fisk Collection of Dante, struck me as an example of American ingenuity. Advantage has been taken of hilly ground to place the entrance to the library and the reading-rooms in the middle storey of the buildings. Accordingly, the most distant stacks are no more than three floors up, or as many down, from the department where the books are handed out.

Cornell prides itself upon its cosmopolitan character. Not much more than half of the students enter from the State of New York. Every other State in the Union is represented. In September last, when the number of first year students stood 200 above the previous record, eleven Chinese freshmen were enrolled.

Selecting Debate Teams.

Competitions are taking place this week for the selection of the members of Cornell's teams in the annual contest of the Triangular Debate League, which will be held on Saturday evening, February 28. Three debates will be held simultaneously: Cornell will meet Pennsylvania at Philadelphia and Columbia at Ithaca, while Pennsylvania will be matched against Columbia in New York. The question for debate is that of federal licenses for corporations doing interstate business. The officers of the Triangular Debate League are L. R. Goodrich, Cornell, president; W. D. Woodberry, Columbia, vice-president, and F. A. Paul, Pennsylvania, secretary. Pennsylvania now holds the championship of the league, having defeated both Cornell and Columbia last year.

Pennsylvania and Michigan have signed another two-year agreement for football games.

Teams are now practicing for an intercollege basketball series early in February.

'94 MEMORIAL PRIZE.

Annual Contest in Debate Won by R. C. Edlund, '09, of Brooklyn.

The fourteenth annual contest for the '94 Memorial Prize in debate was held in the Armory on the evening of January 10 and the prize was awarded to Roscoe Claudius Edlund, '09, of Brooklyn. Edlund has taken an active part in debating since his freshman year. He is a member of the Francis Miles Finch Debate Club (the junior class organization) and of the Cornell Congress. Last year he won the Congress prize in declamation. He was alternate on the team which met Pennsylvania in the Triangular League contest and was a member of the team sent by the Congress to meet Bowdoin last year. He is president of the English Club and is a member of the editorial board of the *Era*.

The question for debate was: "*Resolved*: That corporations doing an interstate business should be required to take out federal licenses,—constitutionality being granted." The affirmative was sustained by Mr. Edlund, D. T. Smith, '08, Brooklyn, and Miss E. E. Cook, '08, Ithaca; the negative by R. E. Coulson, '09, Buffalo; A. L. Gilman, '09, Groveland Station, and A. H. Winder, '08, Dayton, O. To each contestant was allowed ten minutes for direct argument and five minutes for rebuttal. Under the terms of the gift, no decision is announced as to the side that more successfully defends its position, only the merits of the individual debaters being considered.

The judges were Professor John B. Clark, of Columbia University; Professor John Archer Silver, of Hobart College, and Professor Alfred Hayes, jr., of Cornell. The prize is the annual income from a fund left as a memorial by the graduating class of 1894 and amounts to twenty-five dollars.

Indoor basketball practice began in the Armory on Monday of this week.

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Ithaca, N. Y., January 15, 1908.

FACULTY AND STUDENTS.

At a meeting of the University Faculty held on January 10, some important legislation was passed in regard to the character of the standing committees, which are somewhat enlarged and membership on which is made to continue for stated periods. The Committee on Student Conduct was abolished and its functions (in case the Trustees give their approval) were transferred to the Committee on Student Organizations, whose title was changed to read Committee on Student Affairs.

One thing is needed now to complement the function of this new Faculty committee, and that is the organization of a corresponding committee of undergraduates, to represent the student body in its relations with the Faculty. That committee should not be too large, but it should be representative of all the classes. It might well consist of the presidents of the four classes, together

with a few elected representatives. It should be a permanent organization, so that it may always be ready to meet with the Faculty committee whenever any matter of student affairs comes up for faculty action. If the undergraduates create such a committee and elect the right sort of men to it, there need never be any serious misunderstanding between Faculty and students.

THE TEN-YEAR BOOK

Work on the collection of data for the new Ten-Year Book is now well advanced. Registrar Hoy began about a month ago to mail to graduates copies of a list of about six hundred names of former students whom he had been unable to locate. So many persons have responded with information that this list has already been reduced by more than seventy names. Mr. Hoy is keeping at it and expects to trace most if not all of these missing ones before the time of the publication of the book next summer. Graduates who receive this list may help the compilers of the book by sending information of the whereabouts of any person whose name they find there. The forthcoming volume will contain the name of every matriculate of Cornell University, with dates of University residence, degrees, present occupation and present address. It will be a complete directory of all students down to Commencement of 1908.

Betting on College Games.

Thomas F. Fennell, graduate coach of the Cornell football team, in one of the college publications [the December *Era*], takes strong ground against betting on college games.

Coach Fennell observes that in the majority of cases the money wagered is the product of self-denial on the part of parents and brothers and sisters of the wagerer. The family have made sacrifices to send the favored son to college. To divert the funds to another purpose than that for which they were provided is little better than embezzlement. In his view, risking this money is un-

dutiful, unchivalrous and unfair, as well as immoral.

Coach Fennell is an example of the fine ideals which genuine devotion to sport may develop. He has played college baseball, college football and pulled a college oar. He thinks so much of a sound body that he will not take a drink nor smoke a cigar. He will lecture by the hour on fairness and squareness in sport and the extension of the same principles to the affairs of life. If *The Enquirer* remembers aright, he is the same Fennell who, two or three years ago, refused to draw the whole stipend of counsel for the Board of Supervisors in Chemung County because he had not been asked enough advice to earn the money.

Sport is a fine school of ethics. It grinds into the souls of its devotees the grand basic principle of fair play. It is a good foundation for the moralities since all crookedness and crime is unfair play. Taken seriously and extended into the broader fields of life it becomes a safe guide to conduct.—*Buffalo Enquirer.*

Class Address Lists.

EDITOR ALUMNI NEWS: I have just received from the class secretary a complete list of the present addresses of the Yale class of 1907. This seems to be a very good idea, and I would suggest that our Cornell class secretaries issue similar lists from time to time and that these lists be mailed to all members of the class. It is true that many of the addresses appear from time to time in the ALUMNI NEWS, but unless one systematically keeps a record of addresses as they appear, he is apt to lose all track of many of his best friends. A complete classified list would be much more satisfactory than any record that an individual would be able to make. The value of the list would be much increased if a few words could be added regarding the present occupation of each member of the class.

S. JAY TELLER, '06.

Friday, January 31, is the date of the junior ball.

ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENT.

NEW YORK.—The annual dinner of the Cornell University alumni of New York city and vicinity will be held on Friday evening, January 31, at the Waldorf-Astoria. This dinner will be given in honor of General Stewart L. Woodford. Further announcements will be made from time to time. The treasurer of the dinner committee is Edward L. Stevens, 154 Nassau street.

Tribute to Professor Nichols.

The *Scientific American* of December 28 contained a biographical sketch of Professor Edward L. Nichols, '75, head of the department of physics in the University, who presided at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Chicago during the holidays. The article is by Marcus Benjamin. The writer says in part:

"During the thirty years that have elapsed since the centennial year, but two physicists have been called to the presidency of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1880 George F. Barker presided over the Boston meeting, and in 1889 Thomas C. Mendenhall was the presiding officer at the Toronto meeting. A year ago, in New York, when the selection of an officer to preside at the Chicago meeting was considered, the claims of the physicists were recognized, and Edward L. Nichols was chosen. . . .

"Professor Nichols has often addressed the meetings of the American Association, and he also deserves recognition for his contributions on science to popular magazines, and for his many valuable memoirs of contemporary scientists, among which particularly worthy of mention are those on Tyndall, Helmholtz, Rogers and Bunsen. Of similar nature was his fascinating address on Franklin's researches in electricity, which he delivered at the bicentennial celebration of the birth of Franklin, held in Philadelphia in 1906 under the auspices of the American Philosophical Society. He then

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called attention to the fact that Franklin was the 'author of the one theory of electricity which of all the views on this subject comes nearest to our twentieth century concept.'

"In the United States there are three societies to which one is chosen in consideration of high attainments in science, and to each of these Professor Nichols has been elected. They are the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. He is also a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, a past president of the Kansas Academy of Sciences, and the president for the year 1906-07 of the American Physical Society, of which he was one of the founders. The Sigma Xi, an honorary scientific society, also claims him as one of its founders, and he has been its president since 1904.

"Professor Nichols joined the American Association at its Saratoga meeting in 1879. Two years later he was advanced to the grade of fellow. His affiliations have been with the sections on physics and chemistry, chiefly, however, with the former, of which he was elected secretary in 1889, and vice-president in 1903. At the New York meeting in 1906 he was chosen president of the entire association. This recognition properly confirms his high rank among men of science in the United States, and establishes him as the foremost of contemporary workers in physics."

Among the lectures delivered at the University during the past week were a talk by Professor Nathaniel Schmidt before the Deutscher Verein on his reminiscences of student days in Berlin, an address by Professor R. C. H. Catterall on his observations in Russia last summer, and a description by Dr. Barton Warren Evermann, of Washington, D. C., of an expedition to the Sierras in search of the "golden trout."

The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, of New York, preached in Sage Chapel last Sunday. Dr. Abbott is spending the present week in Ithaca.

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OBITUARY.

SHERMAN E. SMITH, 1900.

Sherman Edwin Smith died in Albuquerque, N. M., on January 7, at the age of thirty-one years. His home was in Cleveland, O., where he had been for seven years in the employment of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway. He had been in poor health for a long time; he went to Colorado Springs in May of last year, but failed to improve and went from there to New Mexico. An attack of grip was the immediate cause of his death.

Mr. Smith was born in Cameron, Mo., and was prepared for college at the Culver Military School. He attended the Worcester Polytechnic School and entered Sibley College in the class of 1900. In the spring of 1898 he played third base on the 'varsity nine.

Immediately after graduation

from college he entered the service of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway as a special apprentice in the motive power department. While making records of an efficiency test of a locomotive on a fast train he was badly injured in a collision, and from the effects of this injury he never fully recovered. In 1904 he was made chief inspector of construction and repairs of engines and cars, and for two years he looked after the building of all locomotives for the New York Central Lines at the Brooks Locomotive Works. His health gradually failed and he spent two winters in New Mexico in the hope of improving it. He had made many friends in Cleveland.

The funeral took place in Lake View, Iowa, at the home of Mrs. Fayette Duer, his sister and only surviving relative.

SAMUEL B. MILLARD, '10.

Samuel Brown Millard, a member

of the sophomore class in the College of Arts and Sciences, died at the home of his parents in Omaha on January 6 from the effects of an operation for appendicitis performed the day before. He was a son of Alfred Millard, '79, cashier of the United States National Bank of Omaha. Samuel Millard was eighteen years old. He was a member of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity.

Founder's Day.

Founder's Day, January 11, was observed as usual by the suspension of University exercises. In the morning, at the Armory, Professor Edward L. Nichols, '75, delivered an address on the life and work of the late Lord Kelvin. Professor Nichols reviewed Lord Kelvin's services to knowledge and recalled the great scientist's visit to Cornell in 1902.

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CORNELL ALUMNI NOTES.

'79, B. Arch.—Albert Buchman is a member of the firm of Buchman & Fox, architects, 11 East Fifty-ninth street, New York.

'79, B. S.—M. J. Spalding is secretary of the North American Chemical Company, with office at their selling agency, 73 Tremont street, Boston, Mass.

'89.—E. H. Chapin is sales agent at New York for the National Car Wheel Company. His office is at 556 West Thirty-fourth street.

'91, M. E.—W. H. Meeker is a member of the faculty of mechanical engineering at Iowa State College, Ames, Ia.

'93.—John H. Lewman is practicing law in Danville, Ill., and is now serving his second term of office as mayor of the city.

'93.—William L. Bray is professor of botany in Syracuse University.

'93. Freeman C. Pond is a member of the firm of J. E. Pond & Son, manufacturers of lumber, Crown Point, N. Y. He holds the office of School Commissioner.

'94, M. E.—Nelson Macy is president of Corlies, Macy & Company, Inc., lithographers, 441 Pearl street, New York.

'95, M. E.—W. K. Lanman is secretary of the Columbus Bolt Works, Columbus, O.

'97, M. E.—The address of William H. Squire is 21 Rue Royale, Paris.

'97, M. E.—Oscar Erisman is in the power and mining engineering department of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

'98.—Wylie Brown is in the general sales office of the Bridgeport Brass Company, Postal Telegraph building, New York.

'98, B. S.—Ernest M. Bull is a member of the firm of A. H. Bull & Company, ship brokers and steamship agents, 8 Bridge street, New York.

'99, M. E.—Nelson K. Moody's address is now 6 Boulevard Elizabetha, Bukharest, Rumania. He is with the Rumanian-American Oil Company.

'99, Ph. B.—Theodore L. Bailey is a member of the law firm of Roel-

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'99, Sp.—F. V. McMullin, formerly with the Westinghouse Machine Company at East Pittsburg, Pa., on January 1 assumed the superintendency of the Cleveland City Forge & Iron Company, of Cleveland, O.

'00, C. E.—Messrs. Hazen & Whipple, consulting engineers, 220

Broadway, New York, announced on January 2 that Weston E. Fuller had been admitted to the firm.

'00, A. B.—Floyd P. Johnson is principal of the boys' high school department and instructor in Latin and Greek in the Friends' School, Wilmington, Del.

'01, LL. B.—Walter E. Phelps is a member of the firm of Smith &

Phelps, real estate brokers and appraisers, 435 East 149th street, New York.

'02, M. D.—Walter L. Niles is practicing medicine at 939 Madison avenue, New York.

'02.—R. W. Koerner is vice-president and general manager of the American Leatherette Manufacturing Company, Buffalo, N. Y.

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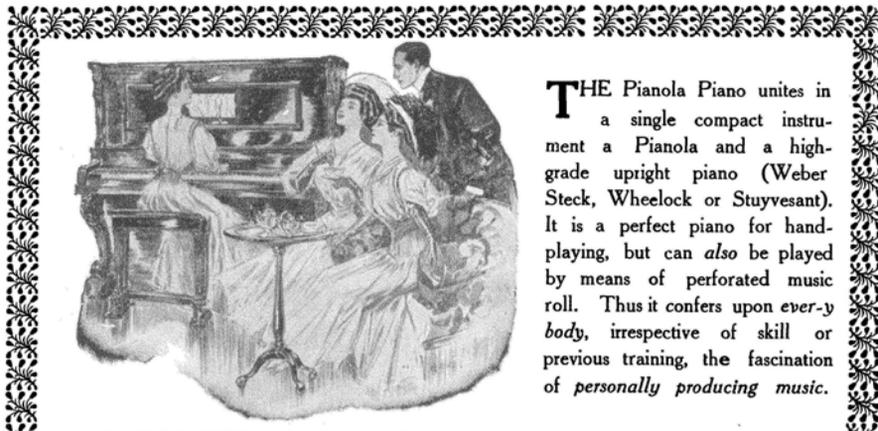
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'03, M. E.—Chester T. Reed is purchasing engineer with the Reed & Prince Manufacturing Company, Worcester, Mass.

'03, M. E.—Fred S. Yale is spending the winter in Florida with his automobile and is now at Daytona for the month.

'03, M. E.—After February 1 the address of Audenried Whittemore will be in care of the Erie City Iron Works, Omaha, Neb.

'03, A. B.—Harry G. Rogers is with the Frederick H. Burnham Company, manufacturers of leather goods, Michigan City, Ind.

'04, LL. B.—Howard C. Lake has changed his residence from the Hotel Narragansett to the Cosmos Club, 323 West Seventy-seventh street, New York.

'04, A. B.—Announcement is made of the marriage of Frederick William Rope and Miss May Edna Thornton, of Buffalo, N. Y. Their residence is 100 Woodward avenue, Buffalo.

'04, A. B.—The Rev. J. Wilbur Tetley is pastor of the Methodist Church at Highland Mills, N. Y.

'04.—D. S. Hunkins was married to Miss Flora Emma Trauernicht on December 7 at St. Louis.

'04, D. V. M.—W. L. Beebe is bacteriologist of the Live Stock Sanitary Board of the State of Minnesota, with headquarters at St. Paul.

'04, A. B.—A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Kelley on December 27. Mr. Kelley lives at Bronxville, N. Y., and is practicing law in New York city with office at 115 Broadway.

'05.—W. B. Atwood is resident engineer of the Ohio Electric Railway Company, with offices in Lima, O.

'05, M. E.—George S. Warren is mechanical engineer of the Sharon Steel Hoop Company, Sharon, Pa.

'05.—Edgar Rogers is in the office of the chief engineer of the Long Island Railroad Company, Jamaica, N. Y. His address is 107 Clinton avenue.

'05, B. Arch.—John Snyder is engaged in the construction of a new high school building at Ossining, N. Y.

'06, C. E.—Lawrence B. Fay is now with the Schaghticoke Electric Company, Schaghticoke, N. Y.

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