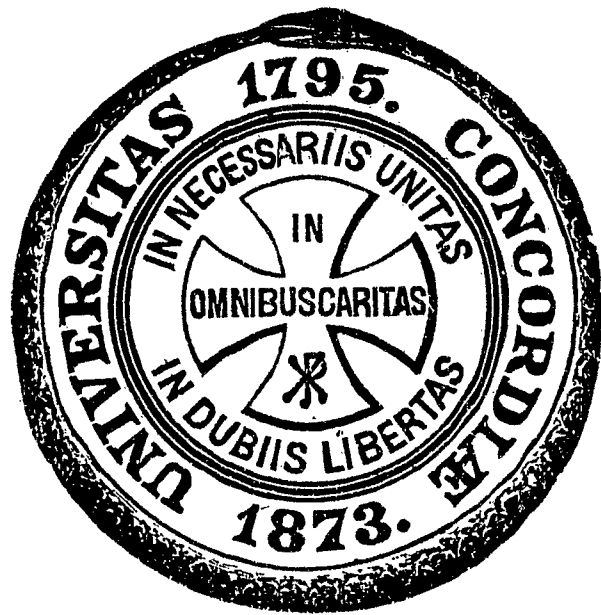


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**CONCORDIENSIS**

VOLUME XXXII

NUMBER 17



MARCH 13, 1909

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
THE STUDENTS OF UNION UNIVERSITY

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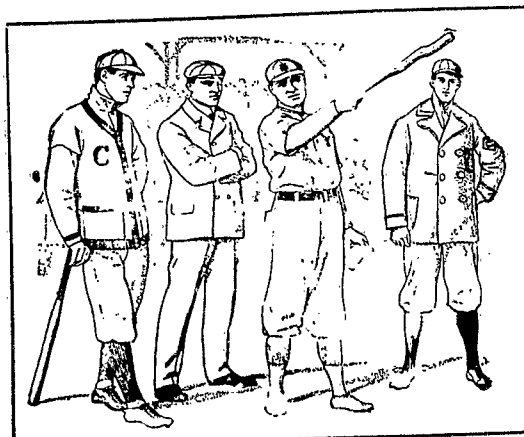
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THURSDAY, MARCH 18

**"45 Minutes from Broadway"**

# THE CONCORDIENSIS

VOL. XXXII.

UNION COLLEGE, MARCH 13, 1909

No. 16

## UNION WINS FROM HAMILTON.

### Union's Debating Team Wins Another Victory.

The second annual debate between Union and Hamilton was held Friday evening, March 5, in the chapel at Hamilton College. The subject of the debate was: "Resolved, That Canadian lumber should be admitted to the United States free of duty." Union's team, which upheld the negative of the question was composed of Bartlett, '10; Wilson, '09, and Mould, '09, with S. M. Cavert, '10, as alternate. Hamilton's team, which was composed entirely of seniors, was Truax, Rifenbark and Wallace, with Dounce as alternate.

The debate was opened at 7:30 o'clock, at which time the college chapel was well filled with students and visitors. President Stryker was unable to preside on account of illness and his place was taken by Prof. Calvin A. Lewis. In the opening speeches, which occupied eight minutes each, the two teams waged an almost evenly pitched contest. All of the speakers made strong, convincing speeches in their opening but on the rebuttal Union showed marked superiority. The relative merits of the two teams were impartially shown by a statement in the Utica Daily Press, which says that in the rebuttal the Union team picked out the arguments of their opponents and answered them clearly and to the point; while Hamilton was largely satisfied to repeat her former arguments and flounder about in rather an aimless fashion.

The debate was opened by Truax, '09, of Hamilton, who showed the importance of the question and emphasized the conditions of the limited lumber supply of the United States. He outlined the affirmative side of the contention from the standpoint of labor, the ultimate consumer and the conservation of the forests.

Union's first speaker was Bartlett, '10, who, after thanking Hamilton for their cordial hospitality, showed that the affirmative had failed to de-

fine the term "lumber," and so had not made the essential distinction between lumber on the one hand, and timber and logs on the other. After showing that free lumber would affect the West and the East in different ways, he outlined the negative's objections to free lumber from the three-fold aspect of injury to the general business interests of the Northwest, injury to conditions in the East, and menace to forest conservation. He showed conclusively that free lumber could mean only disaster to the lumber interests of the Northwest, general business and financial depression, and jeopardy to populous Western cities.

Rifenbark, '09, was easily the star debater on Hamilton's team. After portraying the tremendous increase in the price of lumber during the past few years, he argued that free lumber would guarantee lower and more stable prices, and that the lumber monopolies are the only class benefited by the tariff.

Wilson, '09, second speaker for Union, showed that under free lumber the United States would be made a dumping ground for the low grades of Canadian lumber, and on account of their cheaper transportation facilities and lower taxation would drive the American low grade manufacturers out of the market. For this reason the American lumberman demands protection in the East as well as in the markets of the West.

Wallace, '09, took up the contention of the affirmative that free lumber would prove a benefit to the lumber resources of our country, arguing that the removal of the tariff was the only means of saving our forests.

Mould, '09, closed the direct argument, showing that free lumber would prove a menace rather than a benefit to forest conservation, because the disastrous competition in low grades would result in the low grades being left in the woods to decay and furnish fuel for forest fires. He established the point that the only means of providing a permanent future supply lies in national forest



reserves. He concluded by showing that free lumber could not plant a single tree, prevent floods and soil erosion, or save the forests, but that the revenue derived from the tariff could be applied to the forestry bureau in such a way as to insure an adequate future supply.

It was in the rebuttal speeches that the Union team showed a far deeper insight into the question. They showed that the affirmative had gone on the false assumption that Canada could supply the need of the United States. The Hamilton men were entirely unable to answer satisfactorily these two questions propounded by the negative. First—To what extent would free lumber increase the importation of high grades of lumber which we need? Second—How much longer will our forests last with free lumber than without? Would clinched the whole debate by reducing the whole contention to the principles of logic, showing that the affirmative were arguing a universal proposition which the negative had overthrown by specific instances.

The judges were Rev. Dr. John Snape of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Utica; Attorney Charles L. Tooke of Syracuse and Prof. E. W. Smith of Colgate University. They reported a unanimous decision in favor of Union.

#### FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE.

##### Monday, 9 A. M.

Electric Railway.  
Direct Current Circuits.  
Freshman Rhetoric.  
Soph. B. E. Calculus.  
Jun. B. E. Mechanics.  
Engineering Design.  
European History.  
Sen. Acad. Integral Calculus.  
Biology.  
Soph. Greek A.

##### Monday, 2 P. M.

Jun. E. E. Seminar.  
Freshman Intermediate German.  
Soph. B. E. English.  
History of Education.  
Quantitative Analysis.  
Qualitative Analysis.

#### Organic Chemistry.

##### Tuesday, 9 A. M.

Sen. E. E. Alternating Current Circuits.  
Jun. E. E. Steam Engine.  
Fresh. B. E. Analytics.  
Soph. B. E. Physics.  
Jun. B. E. Thermodynamics.  
Sen. B. E. Sanitary Biology.  
Advanced Ethics.  
American History.  
Soph. Acad. English.  
Fresh B. S. Analytics.  
Fresh. Latin.

##### Tuesday, 2 P. M.

Comparative Politics.  
Sen. Acad. Advanced Mathematics.  
Jun. Acad. English.  
Sopt. Latin.  
Fresh. Greek.

##### Wednesday, 9 A. M.

Elementary French.  
Soph. B. E. Mechanics.  
Jun. B. E. Kinematics.  
English History.  
Motors.  
Transmission.  
Jun. E. E. Hydraulics.  
Sen. Acad. French.  
Sen. Greek B.  
Astronomy.  
Soph. Acad. Analytics.

##### Wednesday, 2 P. M.

Fresh. Intermediate French.  
Sociology.  
Electric Apparatus Design.  
Jun. E. E. Mathematics.  
Jun. Latin.  
Spanish.  
Jun. Greek B.  
Morphology.  
Soph Intermediate French.

##### Thursday, 9 A. M.

Mensuration.  
Jun. German.  
Jun. B. E. American History.  
Least Squares.

Finance.  
Electro-Chemistry.  
Sen. Acad. Physical Lab.  
Sen. Latin.  
English Poetry.  
Jun. Argumentation.  
Physiology.

**Thursday, 2 P. M.**

Mechanical Drawing.  
General Chemistry.  
Sen. Electrical Lab.  
History of Philosophy.  
Sen. Greek A.  
Jun. French.  
Algebra.

**Friday, 9 A. M.**

Elementary French A.  
Soph. Intermediate German.  
Electricity.  
Water Supply.  
Sen. E. E. Seminar.  
Jun. Alternating Current Circuits.  
Sen. German.  
Jun. Greek A.

**Friday, 2 P. M.**

Elementary German A.  
Sen. E. E. Thesis.  
Jun. E. E. Electrical Lab.  
Shakespeare.  
Jun. Acad. Calculus.  
Medieval History.  
Soph. B. S. Calculus.  
Soph. Greek B.

**Saturday, 9 A. M.**

Elementary German.  
Descriptive Geometry.  
Natural Perspective.  
Elements of Law.  
Building Construction.  
Technical Literature.  
Sen. Argumentation.  
Logic.  
Soph. Acad. Physics.

The University of Pennsylvania has recently received a gift of \$100,000 to establish a fellowship fund in law. These are the first law fellowships to be installed in any American Law School.

**COLLEGE MEETING.**

At the college meeting on Monday noon, Mould speaking in behalf of the debating team, said that Hamilton was to be congratulated on the courtesy shown their visitors. He spoke especially in commendation of the parts Wilson and Bartlett took in the debate.

Faust, speaking of the terrace council, said that all the drawing benches taken from Calhan's room have not been returned. If any of the fellows know the whereabouts of any of the benches no questions will be asked if they are returned at once. In regard to the matter of exit from chapel, Faust said that the terrace council thought it best that everyone leave by the front door in the regular order of classes.

Corbin announced a Glee Club rehearsal.

Chapman, '09, said that he wished to see some action taken regarding a dramatic club. Wachter was elected senior representative, Dennis and Ferguson junior, and Ingham, sophomore representatives.

Lewis announced that he had received a letter from Dr. Barnes in reply to the apology sent to the faculty last week from the student body. He also gave notice of the Glee Club picture to be taken Wednesday at White's. In concluding he asked the fellows who have not already made their March payments for the gym fund to do so as soon as possible.

Minutes read and accepted.

Adjourned.

**LIBRARY NOTES.**

Within the last month several new volumes have been procured for our library, among which are the following:

Harper's "Book of Facts."

"The Reader's Hand-book," Brewer.

"Dictionary of Phrase and Fable," Brewer.

"Glossary of Words, Phrases and Allusions,"

Nares.

"Familiar Quotations," Bartlett.

"A Book of Quotations," Benham.

Mr. DeWitt Clinton attended the reception tendered to Dr. Richmond by the Union alumni of Northeastern New York, in Albany, on March 9.

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## That Debate With Hamilton

Last Friday evening our Debating Team overcame the team representing Hamilton at Clinton in a well-fought contest. It is a great thing to win a football game from a team representing some great institution, but much greater is the power of defeating a team in an intellectual contest where learning and power of mind are pitted against each other, and where the struggle is to be determined by men of the world. Our team deserves much praise for their victory, but they deserve more praise for the sacrifices they must have made in preparing themselves for the occasion; such a question could not be prepared in a minute, and to be so successfully presented must have taken much more time. We praise the team for their work and usually stop there, just remembering the fact if we need to. Such ought not to be the case, however, for when we are out with other men, and they are praising the good points of their respective schools, we just have to remind them that at Union all can become excellent speakers and debaters in preparation for most any public service where speaking is required. Enough, then, of this, but let no one while praising our athletic teams forget that we have repeatedly proven our supremacy in forensic powers also. We debate Colgate here early in May. More men should come out for the team and at least help the real debaters to get acquainted with the subject. Chance suggestions often lead to some important point.

This season basketball *Basketball* has been very unsuccessful in more ways than one. The spirit shown, while in keeping with



our name, has not been the best, and in addition our team has won only one victory so far, and with one more game to play we cannot hope for an excellent record, nor even a fair one. Such a condition of things ought not to exist here. If our basket ball abilities are limited we should acknowledge the fact, and either give up the sport for something more beneficial or put out better teams. It may not be the individual players, but something is the matter and must be remedied. A much better use could be made of the basket ball money in almost any of the different athletic departments; for instance, that money would increase greatly the equipment of the football team or put the diamond into excellent shape for baseball. The matter is worth consideration, and each of us should decide what is best.

College spirit may be manifested in various ways. But a good and recognized criterion as to the real nature of a student is found in his willingness to fulfill all his obligations, not only to his fellow students in particular, but more especially to his college in general. The non-fulfillment of obligations, especially those voluntarily contracted by a student, implies a defect, a weakness of character.

At the beginning of the college year the majority of the student body agreed, through a signed petition, to subscribe and pay for said subscription of this paper. Thus far a majority of these subscribers have shown the proper spirit and have fulfilled their obligation. There are a few, however, who have failed to do so, and this failure may result in seriously hindering the publication of this paper during the next few months.

It is therefore incumbent upon those who have not yet paid their subscription

to do their duty primarily to their fellow students and alumni who have fulfilled their obligation and expect to receive the paper the entire year.

#### THE UNITING OF CHEMICAL INDIVIDUALS.

Knowledge of general laws reduces our work of investigating, understanding and describing the facts of chemistry, because from the properties of a limited number of pure substances, we can predict to some extent the properties of the solutions and compounds made from them. A law which has been found true for pure substances, or chemical individuals, and also for every other kind of substance solution and mixture, is the law of the conservation of weight. Chemical change alters no weight. This is a special case of a general law, which is true for all physical and chemical happenings, because no change, as electrification, or heating, will alter weight. Other laws may be deduced from experiment, without the help of the atomic hypothesis, and this service has been rendered to science by Wilhelm Ostwald, Professor of chemistry at the University of Leipzig.

Suppose we start from the general law that every chemical individual (element or compound) is endowed with distinct chemical properties. If we change one chemical individual into another, the law of definite properties provides also for the production of another substance of definite weight. There must then be a definite ratio between the weight of the primary substance, and of the product. Otherwise our chemical individual would not fit the definition of a chemical individual which says that all the properties of chemical individuals are definite.

This law of constant ratio was discovered experimentally by Proust in the eighteenth century from the analysis of natural and artificial minerals as chalcocite ( $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$ ) an ore of copper. Older workers knew, of course, that the amount of the product depended on the amount of material used, but it was only a very rough approximation, depending on their skill and the worth of their apparatus. Berthollet attacked Proust's law on theo-

retical grounds, thinking that chemical substances could combine in varying ratios, depending on pressure, temperature, and especially on concentration because he had found that the mass of the reacting substance had some influence. He mistook solutions and mixtures for chemical compounds, and Proust pointed out his error. This controversy is very famous for its length, the importance of the issue and the politeness with which it was carried on.

Enter, J. B. Richter. The power of his genius is shown by the fact that he wondered about something everyone knew, and in answering his own question, discovered an important law.

Solutions of  $\text{KNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{KCl}$  and  $\text{NaNO}_3$  are all neutral to litmus, and on mixing in pairs, the resulting solutions are also neutral, which is the simple fact to be expected. Now, in some of these mixtures there must be a mutual decomposition, for the first two on mixing give a solution identical with that obtained on mixing the last two,  $\text{KNO}_3$  and  $\text{NaCl}$  decompose one another, and add to some  $\text{NaCl}$  just enough  $\text{KNO}_3$  so that the sodium of the  $\text{NaCl}$  gets exactly saturated with the nitric acid of the  $\text{KNO}_3$ . Then a certain amount of hydrochloric acid will be liberated from the  $\text{NaCl}$  and another amount of potassium from  $\text{KNO}_3$ , and since the solution remains neutral, just as much hydrochloric acid must have been liberated, as was necessary to combine with the potassium. The permanence of neutrality proves that definite numerical ratios exist between the amounts of acids and bases forming neutral salts. (If by chance the reader feels impelled to peruse this a second time, I would strongly advise against his doing so.) So without knowing any of the numbers, we recognize the existence of a law. There is a combining weight for each base, and for each acid, and these express the ratios according to which they combine to form salts.

Richter's law was not accepted at once, sharing the fate of a good many other great discoveries. But later Berzelius used it to test the correctness of his analysis of neutral salts, and acknowledged its correctness but gave the credit of its discovery to Wenzel, by whose name it was known until the middle of the nineteenth century.

The general law of the combining weights of all substances, elements and compounds, was developed on the basis of the atomic hypothesis, and it took a century to recognize that this foundation was not necessary.

John Dalton, who was a school master of Manchester, England, assumed that atoms must exist. He believed in them absolutely and considered it a waste of time to try to verify their existence. This was probably true as he could not have done it anyway. But Dalton came to some interesting consequences as set forth in his *Chemical Philosophy*, published in 1808, which is in the library. Atoms of different elements must differ in shape, size, weight, etc. Then if a compound is formed by combining different atoms, the weight of each element in the compound must be proportional to the weights of the corresponding atoms. This follows only if the atoms of a given element are equal among themselves. Dalton found this to be true, for the water or sulphur boiling away first, is no lighter than that remaining.

This extended the experimental law of Richter by starting from a hypothetical assumption and drawing important but unproven conclusions.

Berzelius in 1809 began to base Dalton's law on experiment and spent his whole life developing analytical chemistry, and determining atomic weights. To-day the law of combining weights rests on quantitative investigation without any reference to the atomic hypothesis.

The law of combining weights may also be deduced from an empirical fact, in a way similar to that in which Richter found his law. This fact is that compounds behave by entering into more complicated compounds just like elements. Ber-

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zelius, who was the final authority of his day on all things chemical, oxidized barium sulfite ( $\text{Ba SO}_3$ ) to barium sulfate ( $\text{Ba SO}_4$ ). If the ratio between the barium and the sulfur in the sulfite is different from that in the sulfate, and excess of sulfuric acid or of barium would be formed. Berzelius found no such excess. Therefore barium sulfite ( $\text{Ba SO}_3$ ) has entered into the combination with oxygen as a whole. The same result appeared on changing lead sulfid ( $\text{Pb S}$ ) to lead sulfate ( $\text{Pb SO}_4$ ), and Stas verified the results later with investigation on a larger scale—the compounds entered the new combination as a whole.

Assume three chemical substances, elements or compounds. Combine unit weight of A with B to form the compound AB. The weight of B used is the combining weight of B, and the sum of the weights of A and B, the combining weight of the compound AB. Combine this weight of AB with C to form ABC; the amount of C used is the combining weight of C.

Now form the compound ABC in another way. Combine A with C to form AC, and then AC with B to form ACB. As the properties of a substance are independent of the way in which we get it, ACB is identical with ABC. We have now found the combining weight of C with AB, and also with A. These must be equal, for otherwise ACB and ABC would not be the same. Therefore only one distinct combining weight can be ascribed to a chemical individual independently of the elements or compounds which can combine with it. Thus we have the law of combining weights as the result of experiment without the help of the atomic hypothesis.

Richter arranged the combining weights in the order of their magnitude and said that there were certain numerical relations between the numbers. But the application of his statement to inexact results caused rejection of the whole work. Later the periodic classification was developed by Newlands, Lothar Meyer and Mendelejeff.

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### FRENCH CONVERSATION IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

BY F. W. SMITH.

(Continued from last week.)

In Mlle. Scudery's written "Conversations," of which there are twelve, some exceedingly pertinent thought in regard to the art of conversation are set forth. To quote from her:

But to return to Madame de Rambouillet. When she was about 35 years of age she was attacked by a strange malady. She found that fire strangely heated her blood, and this even in winter, so that she was obliged to be screened from its influence. As she was extremely fond of society she introduced the Spanish alcove into her house. Her guests would often gather about her bed in this alcove for the purpose of holding conversation and when Madame held receptions she could hear all that was said in the room adjoining the alcove. The space between the bed and the wall was known as the *ruelle*, and *ruelle* and the wall was known as the *ruelle*, and *ruelle* and alcove came to be synonymous. The alcove was more properly used for informal calls, but when the *Precieuse* movement had widely spread, the *ruelle* was much used and an etiquette peculiar to the *ruelle* sprang up. Subjects for conversation were proposed in advance and were looked up as carefully as though for debate.

"Conversation ought not to be limited too much to domestic subjects, nor turned exclusively upon the subject of dress, as often happens when women are alone. If one should write all that fifteen or twenty women should say when they are together, it would make the worst sort of book imaginable, and that, too, if those women should be very intelligent. But let a man, not necessarily distinguished, enter the room and the conversation will become at once unconstrained and regular, wittier and more agreeable. I conceive that it ought more often to be about ordinary and galant matters than about great subjects. I believe, though, that there is nothing which cannot enter therein; that it ought to be free and diversified according to the time, place

and persons with whom it is carried on, and that the secret lies in speaking always nobly of low matters, simply of elevated ones and very gallantly of galant things, without either haste or affectation.

Further on, the "Queen of the Samedis" (Mlle. Scudery) lays down the principle that an assembly of both sexes is necessary for true conversation. She says: "There is a certain something that enable a clever gentleman to brighten and amuse an assemblage of ladies, which is not possessed by the cleverest lady."

As time went on, the conversation peculiar to the period became extremely complimentary in character and the law was laid down in order to prevent dryness or wearisomeness in conversation, that the compliment should not be drawn forcibly but born naturally from the discourse.

One might easily judge that the *Precieuse* movement would be productive of exaggeration. We find an author writing thus: "The revolution of the earth is clearly seen in the *ruelle*. Three or four *Precieuses* will discuss in one afternoon all that the sun can have seen in his journey through the seasons. There is nothing hidden from their minds or eyes; they have means of penetrating even to the thoughts and secrets of hearts. Their principal object is the search for *bon mots*." And La Bruyere in writing of the *Precieuses* relates: "Not long since there was a circle of persons composed of both sexes, bound together by conversation and by the interchange of wit. They left to the vulgar the art of speaking intelligibly. If some one said something blindly, another person made it more obscure and then some one else outdid that by making it truly enigmatical. This they called sentiment, delicacy, turn, a subtlety of expression. Then finally came to be no longer understood by themselves. To contribute to these conversations, judgment, memory nor talent was necessary. Wit was necessary, not the best, but that which is false, and in which the imagination plays a great part."

Doubtless La Bruyere is slightly more severe than he is warranted in being. It is well known, however, that there were conversational excesses



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even the Hotel de Rambouillet and the Samedis, to say nothing of the imitators in Paris and in the provinces.

An illustration of Precieuse conversation in the provinces is found in Feuretiere's "Le Roman Bourgeois." A company of ladies and gentlemen are engaged in discussing literary subjects when Philaethe says: "I have known for some time the difficulty of making good sonnets, and I have seen famous poets who had gained renown from their long poems whose reputation has been injured by the sonnet."

Javotte.—As for the sonnet, I am sure I have a good one that a lady client of my papa left in his study on making him a professional call.

On being urged to read it, Javotte says: "I beg to be excused, for it is so long—so long that it would interrupt you too much."

Hypocrite.—Why should it take so much time to read four stanzas?

Javotte.—Why there are more than four hundred of them.

(Drawing from her pocket a little book bound in marble boards, containing an entire poem, entitled "The Metomorphosis Into Stars of the Eyes of Phyllis." The company cannot refrain from laughing).

Javotte (blushing).—Aren't these verses? At least, my papa told me so.

Panrace.—Doubtless they are.

Javotte.—Well, then, is not a sonnet made of verses? What is there to laugh at?

Had there been no so-called "Blue Stocking" in France in the Seventeenth century, literature would now be minus Moliere's two masterly plays, "Les Precieuses Ridicules," and "Les Femmes Savantes." Whatever may be said against the excesses of the Precieuse movement, however much it may be ridiculed, it must be said that it exerted for a time a beneficial effect upon the manners and morals of high-born soldiers used to rough camp life, that it did bring about some

reforms in French spelling and aided in lending charms to expressions of thought. It must be admitted, also, that the spirit of French conversation was born at that time in circles over which ladies presided, and that it was under the patronage of women that the necessary fusion of men of letters with men of rank and influence took place.

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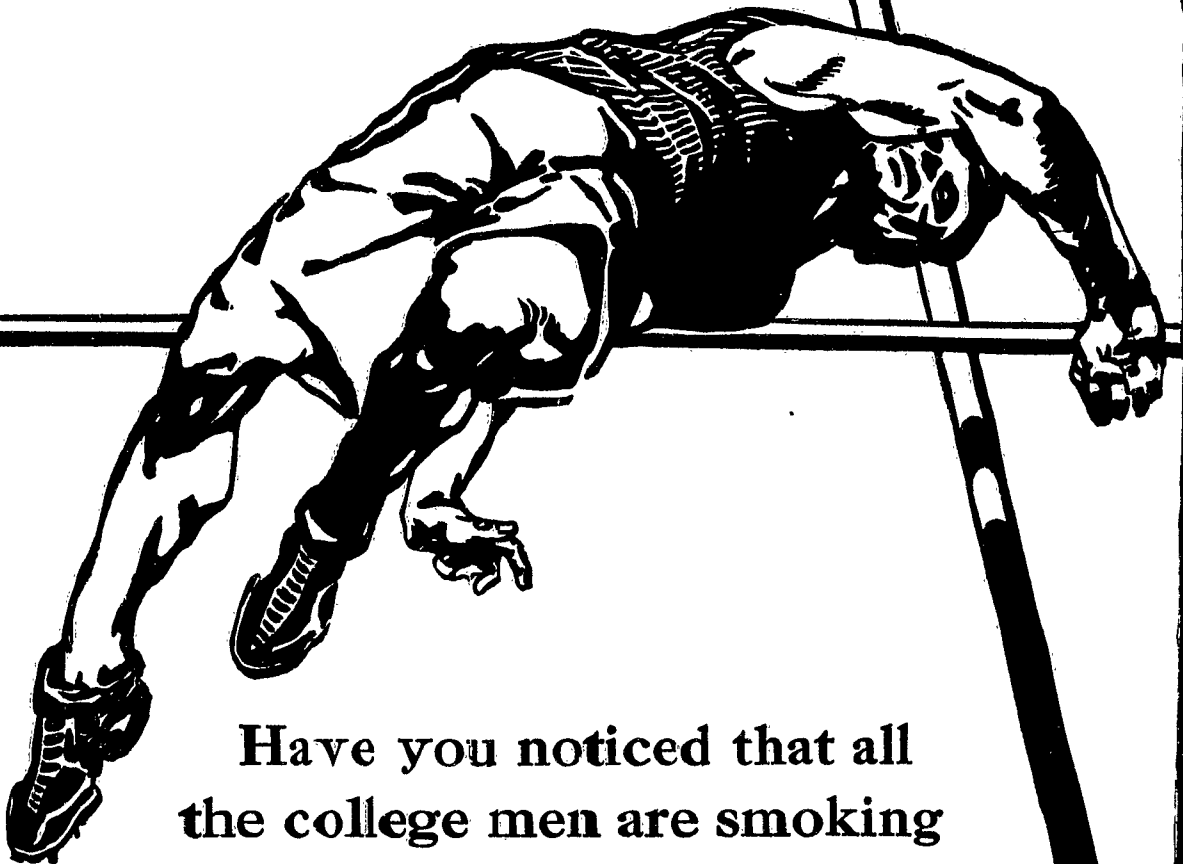
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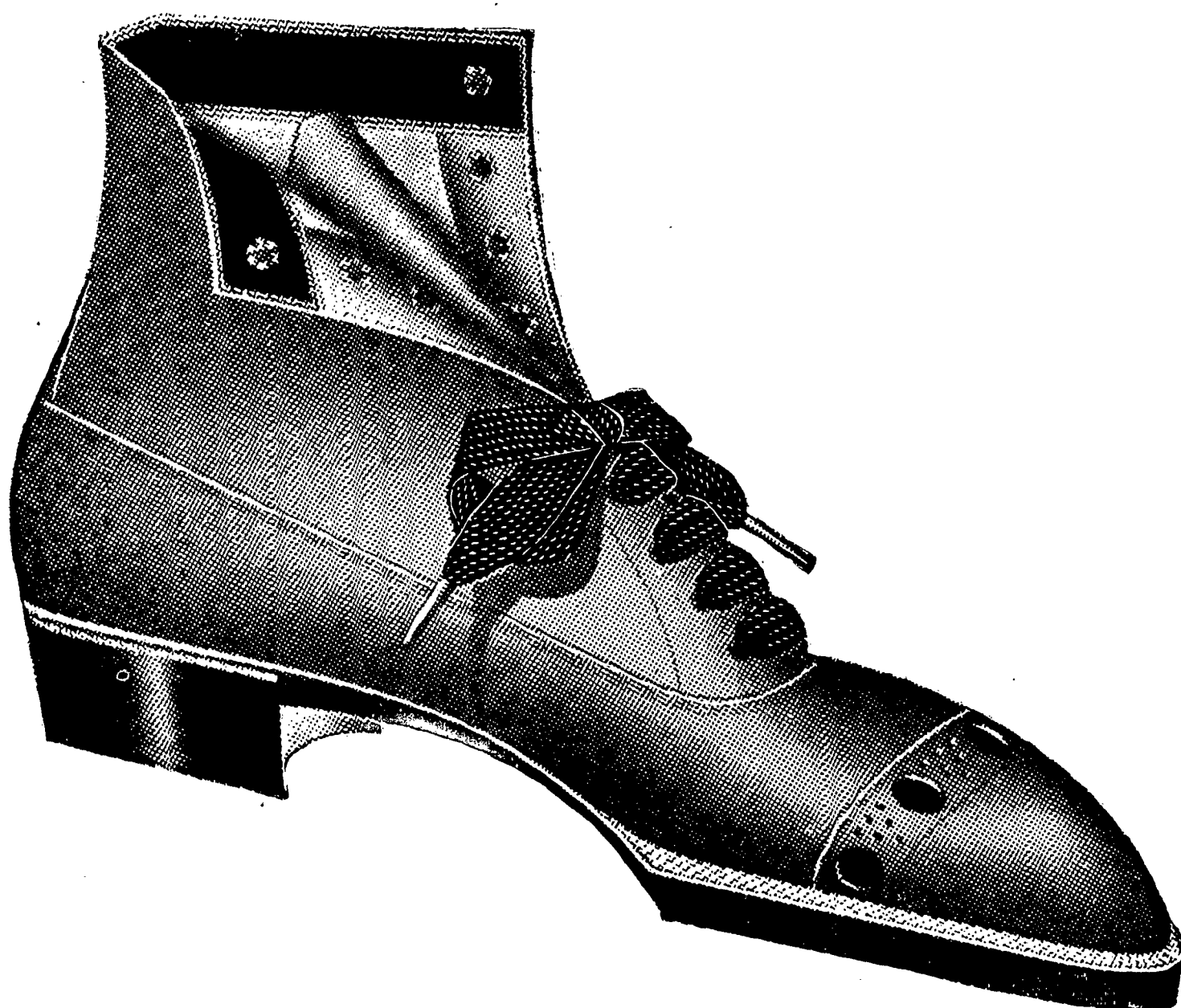
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