

Library

THE CONCORDIENSIS

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF UNION COLLEGE

VOLUME XLI

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1917

NO. 29

THREE-DAY JUNIOR WEEK IS DECIDED ON

House Parties Will Be Held by Seven Fraternities.

EXPENSE MUCH REDUCED

Programmes & Souvenirs, Things of Beauty But Not of Use, to Be Eliminated.

The Terrace Council, the Interfraternity Conference and the Junior Prom Committee held a joint meeting on last Friday afternoon at which time many plans were made for Junior Week.

It was decided to have the party last three days this year as usual instead of curtailing the programme to two days, as was suggested. Thursday evening, February 7, will therefore open Junior Week. As yet no definite plans have been made, but either a Musical Club concert or a Dramatic Club performance will be given on that evening. On Friday or Saturday afternoon a joint tea will be given by the Interfraternity Conference to all the week-end guests. Each fraternity will give a certain amount to this general tea, which will be held in Hanna Hall. On Saturday evening there will undoubtedly be a basketball game, but no contract has yet been signed.

The prom will be given on Friday evening from nine to three. At twelve light refreshments will be served. In order to cut down the expenses this year the decorations and refreshments will be made very simple but the music will be the best that can be obtained. The committee is in touch with several of the best orchestras in the country and hopes to soon close its contract.

It has been decided to do away with programmes but small dance orders will be provided. The usual souvenir programme of Junior Week which has been published by the Interfraternity Conference will not be put out this season since it was deemed an unnecessary expense. The assessment this year will be only \$4.50 per couple, and \$3.00 for stags.

About seven fraternities have signified their intention of giving house parties.

CALENDAR.

Tuesday.

12:00—Letter men meet in Chapel.
7:15—Classical Club meets in Prof. Bennett's room.

Wednesday.

12:00—College closes until 8:00 A. M. December 3, for Thanksgiving recess.

LISTS OF UNION MEN IN U. S. SERVICE TO BE PREPARED BY INTERFRATERNITY CONFERENCE

The Interfraternity Conference is gathering statistics for the Graduate Council regarding Union men in the U. S. service. Each fraternity is requested to give a list of its members who are in the service to McCauley '18.

The Interfraternity Conference has expressed itself as willing to manage dances after the basket-

ball games this winter, if the students desire to hold the dances.

J. W. McCauley, '18, president of the Conference, has requested the fraternity men to talk the matter over and be ready to give their decision through their representative on the Council at the next meeting of that body.

HONOR COURT ELECTS OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Constitution Has to be Violated to Fill Vacancies, Owing to Depleted Registration.

The Honor Court met Saturday afternoon to elect a president to succeed Bernadotte P. Lester '18 and two new members to succeed Lester and S. W. Talbot '18. F. G. Bascom '18 was elected president, Charles De La Vergne '19 was elected as Alpha Delta Phi's representative on the court to succeed Lester, and J. W. McCauley '18 was chosen from the Psi Upsilon fraternity to succeed S. W. Talbot '18.

A vice-president was also elected—W. L. Kennedy '18. The Honor Court has never before elected a vice-president, but inasmuch as the court has twice been left temporarily without a head, owing to the withdrawal of the president from college, it was deemed advisable to create this new office.

The election of De La Vergne, a Junior, to succeed Lester, a Senior, is in violation of the provision of the constitution of the court which prescribes that a certain number of the members of the court shall be Seniors and a certain number shall be Juniors. But as there are no Seniors in Alpha Delta Phi it was necessary to disregard this provision.

COUNCIL ASKS SENIORS FOR MONEY AND LIFE

The Senior class's assessment for the running expenses of the Graduate Council's office is twelve dollars. A per capita tax of fifty cents was voted at a meeting of the class last Saturday. Mosher is treasurer of the class and will collect the tax. At this meeting blanks were distributed to the Seniors which they are to fill out at once and return to either J. W. McCauley or E. M. Cameron. These blanks are to furnish information for the Graduate Council's records concerning the biography of the members of the class.

U. S. STUDENTS LACK INTELLECTUAL COURAGE

Prof. Bennett Says American College Men Reproach Scholar and Distract Him.

Speaking at vesper services yesterday afternoon, Prof. Bennett presented a stern indictment against the attitude of American college men towards the scholar. He declared that college men have a grievous lack of courage in applying themselves to their studies. In no other civilized country, Prof. Bennett said, was it a reproach for a student to apply himself entirely to the chief purpose for which colleges are established, namely, the cultivation of the intellect, but in the American college the man who, refusing to whittle down his convictions, conscientiously attempts high scholarship earns the reproachful epithet of "greasy grind." He further said that the many distractions, in the form of the so-called "activities," put in the way of the student is a harmful aspect of American college life.

"At the present time," he said, "the kind of courage we think of first is that which a young man should display on the battle-field but there are other kinds of courage—moral, social, intellectual and religious—and in the American college course these are a good deal neglected. There is too much whittling away of convictions in your social life and there is a grievous lack of intellectual courage."

"It seems strange," he continued, "that nineteen hundred years after Jesus of Nazareth, men should be doing what they are doing today, but the reason, I think, that the teachings of Jesus are not more observed throughout the world is that men have not had the courage to live up to them. It is difficult to be good, and it requires high courage to seek for blessedness as it is presented in the beatitudes."

AUTHORITY ON AFRICA ON AFRICA'S WONDERS

The Land of the Future, He Declares.

HAS RICHEST RESOURCES

Christianity's Task After War is to Rescue Africa From Moslem Domination.

Dr. Carl Kumm of Cambridge University, one of the most noted geographers of the world and prominent as an African missionary and explorer, spoke on Africa in chapel this noon. He pictured the vast resources of the country, which he called the continent of the future and which he said is now in danger of Moslem conquest. To rescue Africa from that danger the speaker said would be the first duty of Christians after the war. Dr. Kumm is the founder of the Sudan United Mission, which is an international mission in Africa.

At the beginning of his remarks he told of the rapid advance the United States has made in recent years in the study of geography. Twelve years ago when Dr. Kumm visited this country there was no university which had a department of geography. Today eight universities have departments and eleven have chairs of geography. The University of Chicago has five chairs and has the finest building and equipment for the study of geography in the world, and the department there cannot supply the demand for professors of geography.

But, Dr. Kumm continued, at a recent convention of American geographers held in New York which was attended by fifty men who were experts in various branches of geography, none of them were specialists on Africa.

"Africa," he said, "is a country worth knowing. It is the continent of the future. Forty per cent of the world's gold supply comes from one single town in Africa and gold is found in many parts of the continent. The diamond trade of the world is controlled by African interests. Fifty tin companies organized within recent years are developing in Africa, the greatest tin deposits of the world. Copper is found there, ivory and ostrich feathers, and a superabundance of many other of the most precious treasures of the world."

(Continued on page 4)

* This will be the last issue *
* of THE CONCORDIENSIS until *
* Wednesday, December 5. *

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1917

American Undergraduates, Scholars and Scholarship.

A member of the faculty, as reported elsewhere in this paper, speaking yesterday at vespers said that in American colleges the man who attempts high scholarship incurs the reproach of his fellows.

We had not noticed that scholarly attainments earn opprobrium among the undergraduates. Casting a slight or a sneer or a slur, overlooking mere banter, on the studious man is a rare occurrence. If any scholar is not held in high esteem it is not because he is a scholar. The proof is found in the fact that here at Union College, at least, men who attain academic honors, Phi Beta Kappa men, frequently are elevated by their fellow students to the highest honors in other fields of student activity. Against the scholar as an individual the undergraduates inculcate no hostility.

But most of them, although they have no unwillingness that others should possess it, do regard with hostility the attainment of scholarship for themselves. One of the prerequisites of scholarship is taking pains. The average student is slipshod, hasty, careless. He does slap-dash work.

A scholar must have the ability to appreciate literature and intellectual things. The average student has no such appreciation. He has rather a repugnance for literature and intellectual things which amounts almost to horror. This appreciation is either indignant or acquired, like learning to like oysters, foreign cheeses and beer and other pleasant things, by persistent application. But the average student has no desire to learn to like literature or its kindred studies, or even any studies at all. He is not even luke-

warm on the subject. He flies from "sweetness and light" as from a fearful thing.

Yet he has no animosity for the scholar. He has what seems to be an almost incurable aversion for scholarship.

Literary Conjectures.

Did Shelley, with prophetic vision, have in mind the doing away with the Freshman Banquet at Union College, when he wrote "Oh, write no more the tale of Troy"?

Or Homer when he sang, "Nor shall there be joy in the goodly feast, since the worst prevails"?

ALUMNI DOINGS.

Robert M. Landreth ex-'19, today receives his commission at Plattsburgh as Second Lieutenant, Infantry, R. O. T. C.

Cornelius Lowe '16 and J. F. Reardon ex-'20 are in the Albany Base Hospital Unit which was recently called out.

Francis J. Campbell, ex-'19 visited the campus last Saturday and Sunday. Campbell is at Harvard University taking naval radio work. He originally enlisted as a seaman but succeeded in getting a transfer. He is at his old-time occupation, being the leader of a forty-piece band, and has entered other training school activities.

David B. Little ex-'19, who enlisted in the Naval Reserve last spring, was recently ordered to the Naval Reserve training camp at Pelham Park where he is in the probation regiment.

John J. Beattie, ex-'18, another Naval Reservist, visited the campus Sunday. He is stationed with the Staten Island Mine Sweeping Division.

J. Edgar Winne '99, Arthur E. Bishop '03, J. R. Gaity '95 and G. E. Mosten '17, were on the campus for the week-end.

Others who were on the hill for the week-end were: E. T. White '19, Judge R. J. Landon '80, Louis Oppenheim '75, W. L. Kennedy '88, J. J. McCormick '09, J. A. Streibert '09, E. E. Davies '08, R. A. McTaggart ex-'15, J. D. James ex-'14, David Gardinier ex-'18, H. H. Hitchcock '14, C. P. Andrews ex-'17, E. C. Brandow '17, G. E. DeRouville '16, H. S. Roberts '17 and W. S. Cassidy '91.

Rev. Samuel McC. Cavert '10, is at present associated with the General War-Time Commission of the Churches in New York City.

"Zip" Zimmer, '16, is with the Guard Detachment at the Division Prison at Camp Wadsworth, S. C. He was commissioned a second lieutenant at Madison Barracks last summer and was subsequently at Camp Dix, at Wrightstown, and at Camp Hancock at Augusta.

DR. FOBES TO SPEAK ON TWO MODERN UTOPIAS.

The Classical Club, meeting tomorrow night in Prof. Bennett's class room at 7:15, will be addressed by Dr. Fobes on "Plato's Republic and Two Modern Utopias."

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D. U.'S HOLD ANNUAL INITIATION AND BANQUET

The eightieth annual initiation and banquet of the Union Chapter of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity was held Saturday evening. About twenty-five alumni returned, including many representatives from other chapters. After the initiation ceremony, a sumptuous banquet was served for fifty. A. Edgar Davies '08, acted as toastmaster at the banquet. President Richmond also attended the initiation and banquet.

Beta Theta Pi entertained several of their alumni at a buffet luncheon last Friday night. Among those present were: D. H. Deyoe '98, Dr. Treder '04, W. F. McKnab '08, Thos. Bailly '08, Prof. H. G. McKean (Colgate '89), LeRoy Bailly ex-'19, H. J. Dillingham '89 and E. C. Vrooman '17.

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Former Student Praises Y. M. C. A.'s Work in Army Cantonments.

Camp Wadsworth
Spartanburg, S. C.
Nov. 20th, 1917.

The Editor-in-Chief of THE CONCORDIENSIS:

I have noticed that for some time recently The Concordy has given considerable attention to the work of the Y. M. C. A. in the army overseas, but I have seen little concerning its work in the different cantonments here in this country. From letters from friends in the different camps it seems that its work is much the same as it is here at Camp Wadsworth, and from personal experience I cannot speak too highly of what it is doing here. It is deserving of all the aid that can be given it.

I will not attempt to fully describe all the Y. M. C. A. is doing for us here, but will briefly describe a few of the pleasures and advantages it makes possible.

At many different places throughout the camp the Association has separate buildings given over for its purposes. These buildings are always open and free to us all. Free stationery is given in any reasonable quantity to all who request it, and every night the two long tables running nearly the full length of the hall are packed with the men who are writing home or to "her." A good piano stands ready for constant use, there is a victrola and a great number of classical and right-up-to-the-minute popular selections. There are plenty of books, magazines, and papers which, even though a little old by the time we get them, give a lot of pleasure to those fond of reading. Once or twice a week a good concert trio or quartette gives a free musicale to all who care to attend. Quite frequently addresses on various timely topics are given by good speakers.

Nearly in the center of the camp is the big Y. M. C. A. tent, capable of seating a great number of men. Here moving pictures and a good vaudeville program can be enjoyed for three or four days each week. Prominent lecturers fre-

quently speak here—a short time ago W. J. Bryan was the main attraction.

But perhaps the most important work the Y. M. C. A. is doing is its educational classes; for classes are being conducted in nearly every imaginable subject. The beginners' class in French undoubtedly attracts the greatest number. Special classes for the foreigners who wish to become better versed in English, also draw great numbers. There are even courses in photography and nature study for those who care for them.

The branch of the Y. M. C. A. nearest my regiment has nearly completed a large outdoor platform where boxing and wrestling bouts may be held.

I have only briefly sketched this Y. M. C. A. work here in this camp, but it may enable some of the sons of Union to realize how much it is doing for us,—that it is no fake or graft scheme, and that every dollar contributed to it goes right where it can do the most good. To those who are where the Van, Proctor's—oh, yes! the Hudson—and Glenn's and the Mohawk (now only beatae memoriae to me) are always near by, the entertainment we get here may seem pretty tame, but you cannot imagine how much it means to us here. I will frankly admit that I was very skeptical concerning this Y. M. C. A. work last winter when the first War Relief campaign was in progress—now I am mighty glad I helped it along a bit, and only wish I had contributed more. The time may not be so far distant when this work will mean fully as much to some of you as it now does to some of us already in service, for the second draft is not far distant, and you may personally reap the benefits of any contribution to this work now. I am in no way connected with the Y.

M. C. A. here, but am writing this solely in appreciation for what it has done for me in the short time I have been here, and to give some direct proof of the fine work the old Y. M. is doing. I hope to

USE OF ENGINEERING BLDG. HIGHLY EFFICIENT

Waste in Use of Equipment, Common to American Colleges, Not Case Here.

"A criticism, and to a great extent, a just one has recently been made of American Colleges, that their educational plants are examples of inefficiency and extravagance," said a member of the faculty, yesterday, remarking on the use of the General Engineering Building by various branches of the academic department.

"Great buildings and equipments are used by a few students for only a small portion of the school year.

"A stranger entering the engineering buildings of Union College would never be justified in making such a criticism," he continued. "The Electrical laboratory is always alive with earnest students engaged in the fascinating processes of producing various forms of electric energy. The General Engineering Building is not only the home of the Civil Engineering Department with its many class-rooms, drafting rooms and laboratories but also furnishes room for thirteen members of the departments of English, Language, Mathematics, Economics, and the Classics. A glance at the room schedules posted on the class-room doors indicates that the rooms are utilized to a high degree of efficiency, the average efficiency of all the rooms being about 70 per cent and several of the rooms having about 90 per cent. The engineering library is becoming a very popular place for study and reference work and the average daily attendance has trebled in the ten months since its establishment.

"Union College is doing its bit in maintaining its educational activities as has recently been urged upon all the schools of the country by President Wilson, Secretary Baker, Commissioner Claxton and others in government authority."

HISTRIONICS CHOOSE VEHICLE FOR SEASON

The Dramatic Club meets tonight in Silliman Hall for the purpose of finally deciding on the play to be produced this season. "A Full House" is a favorite and will probably be chosen. If it is the parts will immediately be sent for and work begun on it at once.

"U" CLUB PROPOSED.

A movement has been started to form a "U" Club for the purpose of forwarding the athletic interests of the college. A meeting of all letter men will be held in chapel at noon tomorrow to effect a preliminary organization.

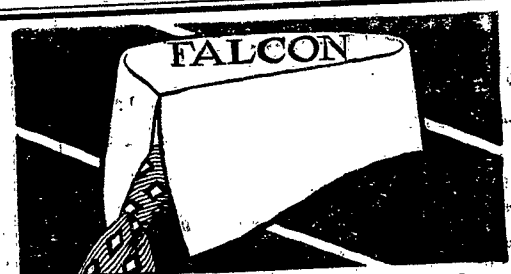
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Union Faculty Members to Attend Convention of College and Prep. School Professors.

President Richmond and several members of the faculty are to attend the thirty-first annual convention of the Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle States and Maryland, which will be held Friday and Saturday of this week at Vassar College. At the conference on classical languages to be held Saturday morning Dr. Richmond will speak, the subject of his address being "The Higher Utility." The members of the English department, Professors Hale, Chase and Whipple, will attend the conference on English to be held Saturday at 10 o'clock.

The program of the conference is made up mainly of the presentation of papers before various conferences on different subjects of the college curriculum.

Friday morning after an address of welcome by the president of Vassar and a response by the president of the association, a member of the National Advisory Committee on the Personnel of the United States Army will speak on "The Teacher and the Soldier." A discussion will follow this address, and Saturday noon Vassar College will be the host of the association at luncheon.

The session will be resumed at 2:15 Friday afternoon when a business meeting and election of officers will be held. At 3 o'clock, Prof. John Erskine of Columbia will present a paper entitled "Democracy and Idealism." Dr. Clyde Furst, Secretary of the Carnegie Foundation, will speak after Prof. Erskine, the subject of his paper being "Educational Surveys."

Friday night at 7 o'clock there will be a subscription dinner.

The conference on classical languages will hear four papers at its first session Saturday morning. Prof. Elizabeth Height of Vassar,

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Miss Jessie E. Allen of the Philadelphia High School for Girls, Dean Mervin Filler of Dickinson College and Prof. Nelson G. McCrea of Columbia will present these papers.

After an intermission, the conference will be resumed at 11:20, when Dr. Richmond will make his address. Prof. Charles Knapp and Dean West of the Princeton Graduate School are on the program with Dr. Richmond.

The conference on history will discuss the question, "What Can Teachers of History Do now?" Dr. John H. Finley, President of the University of the State of New York, Prof. Henry Johnson of the Teachers' College, Prof. Charles D. Hazen of Columbia, Prof. William B. Guthrie of the College of the City of New York, and Prof. D. C. Knowlton of the Central High School of Newark, N. J., will lead the discussion.

The association of the teachers of mathematics will devote the Saturday morning session to hearing papers and to a symposium on applied problems. In the afternoon Prof. C. B. Upton of Teachers' College will give an illustrated lecture on "Mathematics as a Means of Appreciating the Life About Us."

The association of modern languages will hear three papers Saturday morning, by Dr. Julius Sachs, late of Teachers' College; Prof. Anna Wood Ballard of Teachers' College, and Prof. H. A. Todd.

The English conference meets at 10 o'clock Saturday morning. "The Problem of English Composition in the College Curriculum" will be discussed by Prof. Burgess Johnson of Vassar, Prof. C. S. Oswood of Princeton, Prof. John Erskine of Columbia and a speaker to be announced later.

NO CHANGE RESULTS IN COACHING SYSTEM

The withdrawal of "Chick" Hequembourg from the headship of the voluntary basketball coaches will cause no change in the present scheme of coaching. This was decided by the Athletic Board Friday night, when it was agreed to continue the voluntary system.

Spencer B. Eddy ex-'18 was awarded a "U", as was Frees '19, who is manager of basketball in the place of Towne ex-'18.

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AFRICAN EXPERT TELLS OF AFRICA'S WONDERS

(Continued from page 1)

The people of Africa, Dr. Kumm continued, are interesting. "The Blackamoors whom you meet on the city street are the weakest of the African peoples," he said.

The speaker went on by mentioning the many contradictions found in Africa. It is the land of the greatest deserts and the greatest waterfalls, of the largest people and the smallest, of the richest and the poorest, of the most deadly and the most healthful climates, of the most ancient civilization and the most uncivilized savages.

"Africa," he said in conclusion, "is the great battleground between the Crescent and the Cross. The Moslem trader is a Moslem propagandist and he threatens to conquer Central Africa. After the war the Christian church will be held responsible for what she does for Africa."

TEAM ELECTIONS.

The basketball letter men met this afternoon to elect a captain for the coming season. The election of a football captain for next season will be deferred until Hanley returns from his home where he was called by his father's death.



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