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## The Ursinus Weekly, March 16, 1914

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*Ursinus College*

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*Ursinus College*

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# The Ursinus Weekly

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VOL. 43. NO. 22.

COLLEGEVILLE, PA., MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1914.

PRICE, 5 CENTS.

## A NEWS LETTER.

(CONTINUED FROM FEB. 24.)

The mild winters and the fine dry summers make excursions and trips by the teachers an easy and pleasant matter. During the past summer I took an extended trip through Palestine and the land east of the Jordan with nine other teachers. We crossed the Lebanon mountains and traveled 75 miles north and east across the great plain of the Bekka to Damascus which is called at once the oldest inhabited city in the world and the "Port of the Desert." It is really an oasis in the desert and the haven of numerous fleets of those ships of the desert, camels, that ply between Syria and Mesopotamia. Here one feels that he is not only in the orient but also in the early centuries of our era as the bronzed camel drivers, the hardy shepherds in their rough and scanty attire, the venerable gray-headed Arab Sheikhs and the corpulent Persian rug merchants pass by in the noisy crowd. Many interesting sights such as the tomb of Saladdin, the street called straight and the wall from which Paul was let down claimed our attention but we soon left for the south by the Mecca Pilgrim Railroad. This train contained many Moslem pilgrims on their way to Mecca. There were Turks, Circassians, Russian Tartars and Arabs. Some wild and carefree Bedouin Arabs were constantly leaning out of the windows and singing shrill tribal war songs that were interesting but which grew rather monotonous until they were answered by some passing caravan.

Three hundred miles south of Damascus we alighted at a desert town called Maan, where our real trip by camel, horseback and donkey began. For seventeen days we roamed about, stopping at the ancient habateen city, Petra (founded before 900 B. C.), tomb of Aaron on top of Mt. Hor, Modelia, Heshbon, and two of the Decapolis cities, Jerash and Philadelphia. Very extensive and well preserved ruins of these Graeco-Roman towns remain. We wandered at will over the fertile plains of Moab and among the vineyards of Gilead where we saw tent villages of nomadic Arabs, countless camels, sheep, goats and donkeys and flocks of storks. Even a few gazelles and laughing hyenas introduced themselves to us.

(Continued on page 4.)

## Music Students' Recital.

Another afternoon music recital was given in Bomberger Hall, Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Schubert and Beethoven were the composers heard. The following numbers were given:

Piano solo, Adieu to the Piano, Beethoven—Miss Furman; piano solo, Sonata, Op. 27, No. 2, Beethoven—Miss Davenport; Life and Works of Beethoven—Miss Kern; piano, Sonata Pathetique, Op. 13, Beethoven—Miss Davenport; vocal quartet, Hark! Hark! The Lark, Schubert, words by Shakespeare—Misses Hyde and Klein, Messrs. Yeager and Thena; Life and Works of Schubert—Mr. Yeager; vocal solo, Hedge Rose, Schubert—Miss Klein; piano solo, Moment Musical, Op. 94, No. 2, Schubert, Impromptu Op. 90, No. 1, Schubert—Miss Davenport; vocal solo, La Serenade, Schubert—Miss Furman.

## SOCIETY NOTES.

### Zwinglian.

The enjoyable program rendered in Zwinglian Friday evening was miscellaneous in character. Its numbers were: Piano solo, Mr. Weiss; recitation, Miss Kern; chorus, Mr. I. Boyer, leader; impromptu speeches by Mr. Grove and Miss Wiest; reading from Poe, Mr. Hart; vocal solo, Miss Furman; parody, Mr. Harrity; essay, "A Great Jew," Mr. Miller; oration, "Prohibition," Mr. Lehman; review, Mr. Kerschner.

Under voluntary exercises the society enjoyed a few remarks from Mr. Gregg, ex-'15, and music by Mr. Hiwale.

### Schaff.

The miscellaneous program was well rendered in Schaff society on Friday evening. All the numbers were characterized by thorough preparation and splendid delivery. The numbers given follow:

Piano solo, Miss Boorem; reading, "Candle's Wedding Day," Miss Reifsnnyder; declamation, "The Two Roads," Mr. Gobrecht; vocal solo, Miss Klein; essay, "The White Man's Burden," Mr. Beltz; parody, "Old Mother Hubbard," Mr. Small; parliamentary drill, Messrs. Fisher and Ensminger, leaders; quartet, Misses Detwiler and Klein and Messrs. Kehm and Light; oration, "A Plea for Pure Science," Mr. Elicker; Gazette, Miss Paul.

## ALUMNI NOTES.

Miss Amy E. Fermier, '10, has for the past year been holding the position of supervising principal of the Blackwood, N. J., public schools.

Howard Keyser, '10, principal of the high school at West Point, Pa., was a visitor at the college on Saturday.

Rev. James I. Good, D. D., '87, delivered an interesting illustrated address on Japan and China, recently, at Myerstown, Pa.

Rev. H. M. Leidy, '08, of Harmony, Pa., recently received a \$200 increase in salary. Mr. Leidy is meeting with splendid success at Harmony.

Dr. Isenberg, '93, pastor of Trinity church, Philadelphia, preached a sermon recently to the Boy Scouts of Nicetown and Tioga.

Among the distinguished men whose public services were recognized by the University of Pennsylvania at its Washington Anniversary annual services was Rev. N. C. Schaeffer, D. D., '00, who was given the degree of Doctor of Laws.

Rev. W. S. Kerschner, '09, who has been for two years the missionary pastor at Freeport, Ill., has accepted a call tendered him to the assistant pastorate of Grace Reformed Church, Pittsburgh, Pa. Rev. J. H. Prugh, D. D., '93, continues as pastor of the church; but a division of duties was deemed advisable because of the latter's declining health. Rev. Kerschner will assume the duties of the new field on June 1.

## President Omwake Improved.

President Omwake writes from Atlanta, Georgia, that he is much improved in health and expects to return to the college during the latter part of the present week.

A large number of the students took advantage of the opportunity to see Forbes-Robertson, at the Lyric, during the past two weeks.

## NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The management of the "Weekly" would like to have all the subscriptions paid before April 1st. At present only one-third of the Subscription money has come in. Our printer is a liberal man, but a long-standing debt is not good business.

Will you favor us by sending in your payment soon?

## Glee Club at Narberth.

On Thursday evening of last week the Glee Club gave a concert in the high school auditorium at Narberth, Pa. Though only twenty-four members of the club were taken along on the trip, the concert was very creditable, and the audience was generous with its applause.

It was impossible for Deiningert to accompany the club and his role was substituted in the sketch by Kichline. In the second part of the program Hoover gave the readings.

At the close of the concert the entire club was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Fritsch, an uncle of Derr, '16, and a business man of Narberth. This was one of the most enjoyable functions that the club has participated in this year. Mr. and Mrs. Fritsch by their delightful entertainment have found a place in the hearts of the fellows that will not soon be given to another.

A late train conveyed the club to Bryn Mawr at which place a P. and W. car was boarded for Norristown, where a special car was waiting to bring the club to Collegeville.

## Athletic Conference.

The arrangements for the proposed athletic conference to be held at the college are progressing very satisfactorily. A large number of alumni have signified their intention to be present. The date for the conference has not been definitely settled yet, but it will probably be either during the last week of March or the first week of April.

## CALENDAR.

Tuesday, March 17—6.40 p. m., Y. W. C. A., English Room, 7.00 p. m., Mission Study, History room.

Wednesday, March 18—7.00 p. m., Y. M. C. A., English Room.

Thursday, March 19—Glee Club at Roversford.

Friday, March 20—1.30 p. m., Election of Weekly Staff.

7.40 p. m.—Literary Societies. Saturday, March 21—Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest, F. & M., Lancaster, Pa.

Because of an over-abundance of news, the News Letter had to be withheld from several issues of the WEEKLY. The conclusion of the letter appears in this issue.

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EDITORIAL

Another school year is rapidly drawing to a close, all too rapidly for some of us. The comfort of the students has been greatly increased this year; and the general satisfaction among the students is greater than at any previous time during the more than half-decade in which the writer has had opportunity to observe conditions.

There is one condition of our college life, however, which seems to defy all efforts at amelioration. We refer to the social condition. It is indeed true that the social life of the college is in a moribund condition. While the student life along practically all other lines has improved and while the teaching force is, with perhaps a single exception, as good as it has been at any previous time, the social life continues to decline.

It has been stated, though with what foundation of truth we are not able to say, that the impression is prevalent abroad that the students are entirely satisfied with the social conditions as they exist. If this is the impression among either the authorities at the college or any other persons concerned, we wish to assure them that the impression is an erroneous one. Expressions of dissatisfaction with the existing social life of the college are not hard to find; and neither do these expressions come from the chronic fault-finders. We make the statement advisedly that the sentiment of dissatisfaction is general.

The literary societies offer some opportunities for social intercourse and the students make the most of them. The primary object of a

literary society, however, is for development along other lines, and hence the social side of the society must be kept in a minor place if the society is to fulfill its real mission. Again, the social given to the entire student body a few weeks ago by the president and faculty was, we believe, thoroughly enjoyed by most of those who were present. But functions of such stereotyped character and limited scope offer very little opportunity for variation and a second function of this kind would probably be less successful.

Ursinus college must depend on the younger alumni, comparatively speaking, for her support in the future; and we do not believe it would be wise to create such a social atmosphere about her that her graduates will breathe a sigh of relief on escaping. There can be no doubt in the mind of any one that one of the best ways to keep the alumni actively interested in their alma mater is frequently to bring them back to her. But we are often told that there is no attraction at the college, nothing to bring them back.

We believe that a little more liberal toleration on the part of the authorities, a little more consideration for the desires of the students, and a little wider adoption of social customs in vogue in nearly every other college in the country, would create a more favorable attitude in the minds of the students, and at the same time would do harm to no one.

CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS

Y. M. C. A.

The Value of Character' was discussed in Y. M. C. A. on Wednesday evening by Mertz, '14. The following points were brought out:

Character and conduct are no longer sharply discriminated. What a man is, is manifest in what he does; and what he does is an expression of what he is.

General theories of conduct concede three phases of character: (1) Organization of impulses within the individual; (2) organization of individual interests within society; (3) adjustment of human welfare to God.

The man who merely looks out for himself will not make a good citizen.

The man who is merely a social being and looks not out for the individual interest will prove a failure in his endeavor to aid human welfare.

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**Y. W. C. A.**

"Leaders and Followers" was the topic discussed in Y. W. C. A. on Tuesday evening. Miss Rahn, the leader, brought out these points, among others:

The three qualifications necessary for leadership in Christ's kingdom are: (1) Continued activity and usefulness in spirit; (2) close relationship with God; (3) recognition of one's part in the work of the world. We notice further that all great leaders have been characterized by faith, meekness, humility, a forgiving spirit, and generosity.

Each one of us has influences, and is influenced by her companions. In order to be good leaders, we must select worthy leaders to emulate. We cannot go astray, nor lead others astray, if we follow Christ, the greatest of leaders.

Misses Klein, Snyder, and Sabold also spoke upon the topic. A short business meeting followed the discussion.

**Mission Study.**

The mission study class was led on Tuesday evening by J. Myers, '14. "The Roman Church and the Problem of Religious Liberty" was the phase of the study emphasized at this meeting.

While the Roman Catholic church was at first absolutely supreme, as political freedom grew religious toleration also grew. To-day every country in South America allows freedom in religious worship, though the Roman Catholic church is predominant. Mr. Leiper of Amherst College, secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, told the class of the shocking irreverence existing in South America.

**Modern Language Group Meeting**

The Modern Language Group held a meeting in Olevian Hall on Tuesday evening. The program was as follows: Piano Solo, Miss Hunsicker; Reading, "Origine de la Marseillaise," Miss Schlichter; Recitation, "Der Handschuh," Miss Reifsnnyder; Vocal Solo, "Supplication," Miss Boorem; Talk, "How to Travel," Dr. Vogl; Vocal Solo, "Du bist wie eine Blume," Miss Furman.



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(Continued from page 1)

Like Moses, we viewed the Promised Land from Mt. Nebo but, unlike him, we went down to Salt, descended into the Jordan valley near the Dead Sea and crossed the river. Jericho is one of the hottest places in creation owing to its position, almost 1300 feet below sea level, and the trip from there up to Jerusalem is a very hard one. These days as well as those spent in visiting Jerusalem, Bethany, the Philistine plain, Jaffa, Mt. Carmel, etc., gave us all impressions of the land and an insight into the customs and habits of the people that are very enlightening as well as broadening.

I spent the remainder of my summer in the Lebanon mountains and in Egypt. I traveled up the wilds as far as Assuan, only a few miles from the torrid zone, and stopped at all the places of historical interest such as Cairo, Luxon, Thebes, Karnak, etc. This 1500 mile trip up and down the Nile was like a journey into the dim ages of the past as the ruins (one can scarcely call some of them ruins), are so fresh and well preserved that they seem to have been made only a few years ago. The people of the past are there themselves in the forms of hundreds of mummies whose hands can be bought at the rates of \$5 or 5 cents apiece.

Syria is a great and rich country in natural resources, but little use is made of them. The agricultural and manufacturing industries are not much farther advanced than they were in the time of Saul. There are no leaders scientifically, educationally or religiously except the foreigners. The foreign colleges are gradually waking up the young men and the country itself is slowly coming to life although the government does its best to hinder real progress. I am glad that America is having a hand in the work of helping the young men of the near East to see their responsibilities and opportunities.

A. M. BILLMAN, '12.

**Freshmen Win.**

The inter-class basketball game between the Freshmen and Sophomores was played during the past week, with the result that the Freshmen won by the score of 19 to 12. The game was hotly contested from start to finish.

**Attractive Tennis Schedule.**

Yeatts, '16, manager of the ten boys team has arranged the following schedule: April 29, Lehigh at Lehigh; May 4, Cushman Club, here; May 13, Hill School at Pottstown; May 16, Swarthmore, here; May 19 or 21, Haverford, here.

**Mathematical Groups Meeting.**

The most instructive and entertaining meeting of the year was held on Tuesday evening by the Mathematical Groups in Freeland Hall reception rooms. A paper, excellently composed, entitled "The Panama Canal," was read by Miss Rogers. A brief history and the effect of the new canal on transportation were discussed. Professor Rapp read a paper on "Color," which cleverly showed the various color combinations in birds and insects. The paper was illustrated with plates made by Professor Rapp. The program was concluded after a few well-chosen games were played, and refreshments served.

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