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The Ursinus Weekly, March 11, 1912

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Ursinus College

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Ursinus College

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The Ursinus Weekly

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VOL. 10. NO. 23.

COLLEGEVILLE, PA., MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1912.

PRICE, 3 CENTS.

ALUMNI NOTES

Local Cumberland Valley Alumni Meet at Chambersburg

The Cumberland Valley Alumni Association met last Thursday evening at the Hotel Montgomery, Chambersburg, Pa., for the annual banquet and reunion. Nearly all of the graduates in the district gathered from widely scattered sections and the meeting was enthusiastic and helpful. The speeches abounded in reminiscences and were full of the spirit of loyalty and zeal for the college. The officers for the coming year are: President, T. A. Alspach, '97; vice-president, J. S. Heiges, '97; secretary, A. C. Thompson, '96; treasurer, P. E. Swope, S. T., '00.

General Alumni

Dr. Omwake, '98, spoke at the conference of colleges and secondary schools held in conjunction with the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the University of Pittsburg which was celebrated last week.

In the absence of Dr. E. L. Thorndike, Professor of Educational Psychology, at Columbia University, on Monday last, Paul A. Mertz, '10, was in charge of the class, addressing that body on "Recent Modifications of the Binet-Simons Tests, and Their Application to Exceptional Children."

In one of the large daily papers there has recently appeared under the heading "Old Ursinus Star Knocks New Rules," a criticism of the new football rules by Raymond G. Gettel, '04, who is Professor of History and Football Coach at Trinity College.

An alumnus was asked the other day by a possible future student of Ursinus whether any of the Presidents of the United States have been graduates of Ursinus. Of course the writer's answer was "Not yet." Alumni with political ambitions, get busy!

Allen Horten, ex-'13, is pursuing studies as a Freshman in Columbia College, New York.

The engagement of Anna Vera Come, a sister of Come, '14, to Theodore Thomasson, ex-'12, also of New York, has been announced. Mr. Thomasson is in the employ of the American Tobacco Company, and is learning the business from the ground up.

Custer, '09, and Mertz, '10, are arranging dates for the Glee Club's annual New York trip.



ROBERT W. THOMPSON, '12, one of our most esteemed students and best athletes, who died last Thursday.

Robert W. Thompson, of the Senior class, died suddenly in the East Dining Hall last Thursday noon, from a paralysis of the glottis, stimulated by food particles in the larynx and which came as an aftermath of the diphtheria from which he suffered this winter. He was seated at what was the football training table with twelve of his friends, including his younger brother Kerr, when he was seized with a violent fit of coughing. When it was seen that he needed help, those nearest seized him and applied such remedial measures as they knew. Dr. Corson, Dr. Dedaker, and Miss Dechant, who nursed him during his recent illness, were summoned, while others carried Robert up stairs. He was dead before any of the three reached him, never having breathed after he first choked.

Dr. Corson as physician and Miss Dechant as nurse had succeeded in bringing Robert through a very severe attack of diphtheria, from which his recovery was necessarily very slow. However, marked improvement had been noted during the past week, as the paralysis seemed to be abating. On Thursday he was unusually cheerful as he came to the dinner table.

Undertaker John Bechtel prepared the body for shipment to the Thompson home at Clatonia, near Butler, Pa., and sent it on the nine o'clock express from Norristown on Thursday night. Kerr,

Miss Dechant and West accompanied the body, arriving at the Thompson home about eleven o'clock Friday morning. The funeral services were probably held to-day at the Muddy Creek Presbyterian church of which Robert was a member and interment made in the adjoining cemetery.

Robert Thompson was one of the best liked students at Ursinus, kind hearted and generous, he always drew people to him and never repelled. As a student and thinker his opinions were respected; as an athlete, he was a true sportsman and hard player, and as a fellow he always had a kind word and a cheery smile. The high esteem in which he was held by his fellows and the true grief caused by his death were well portrayed on Friday morning when a collection was taken in chapel to buy a floral tribute for his funeral. The students came forward and deposited their contribution as though passing before the bier. They gave as they could without account being taken whether it was a cent or a dollar, and many fellows gave the last cent in their pockets.

Class work was suspended this morning and a memorial service held at which addresses were made by Athletic Director Price and Vice-President Omwake. Mr. Price used as the key note of his touching and intimate eulogy, the loyalty and kind-heartedness of the deceased and his sacrifice for the cause of Ursinus. He portrayed

Continued on fourth page

LETTER FROM JAPAN

Weekly's First Editor Writes of Japanese Customs and the Island's Natural Beauty

Continued from Last Week.

When they all line up, as they must often do, so that none of them get lost, they present pretty much the same appearance. I have often thought that a notice from a college platform at home that such a trip was coming off would be a signal for each fellow to think where his old sweater, high shoes, khaki trousers, and slouch hat were. Rough, fancy, out-landish get ups would be the order of the day. Not so here. From the dean, who appeared in overcoat, white shirt, collar and cuffs (though his trousers were turned inside out in an interesting manner up to his knees) down to the nearest teacher and student this carefulness of dress prevailed. There are two reasons for this. One is that they feel that they represent their school, wearing, as they do, the school insignia on their caps and on their coat buttons, and are seen by many other people. It's the same thing that makes us wear spotless fashionable clothes at tennis, even though we are going to perspire freely. The other reason is that the Japanese have no distinctive outing clothes, as we have in the States. As for me, I found a baseball shirt, bicycle trousers and stockings, and heavy bluchers, for I feel that when a man says "walking trip" it means relaxation from the bonds of white collar and society rules too.

All arrangements are made beforehand. If necessary, some of the leaders go ahead and prepare things by sticking signs up at doubtful places on the road, and making sure that the hotels have not misunderstood the arrangements. At the hotels, for it generally takes two, for about two hundred students usually go, signs are pasted at all the rooms showing where the different sections and classes belong. Needless to say, the proprietors lay in a good stock of rice at those times, and, strange to say, the boys lay in the same rice when they get there.

Along the ways things are about as they would be in America under the same conditions. On this last trip, soon after we pulled out of Tokyo on the accommodation, the

Continued on second page.

THE URSINUS WEEKLY

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EDITORIAL

The Student Senate met last Tuesday evening and transacted much important business. The last case of the Olevian Hall disturbance was disposed of and a distribution of the damages made. In fixing the responsibility for the property destroyed it was found impossible to lay blame on specific individuals so the amount was apportioned among a large number of those who were on the outside, whether as spectators or as actual participants. As the Senate was of the opinion that informal discussion and action would bring about better laws and insure greater justice than technicality and red tape, it was decided to discharge without reports the committees on House Rules and Trial Procedure.

Reinhold, H.-P., reported for the committee on General Student Rules and presented many good ideas. After thorough discussion the Senate decided to pass a rule requiring all first year men, Seniors and Juniors excepted, to perform such duties as the various athletic managers assign to them, and requiring the managers to report all violations of this rule to the Senate.

This ruling is a continuation of the one adopted by the upper classes last year with the exception that it avoids the complication of finding a man's class affiliations. A man simply serves the first year he is in college and is then exempt. It disposes of the work that must necessarily be done by the students without inflicting hardship upon any particular group. It also gives every man a feeling that he is a part of the athletic life of the

college because he has helped in its advancement.

Walking on the campus east of the central walk, except during commencement week was made a misdemeanor. This law needs for its enforcement the co-operation of all students.

A Freshman was defined as a person entering college with less than three credits and not having more than three and one-half conditions; a Sophomore as one who has three credits.

It was decided that any hazing may be considered a misdemeanor and that all hazing after October first of each year be forbidden. Painting and posters were limited to the same period and excluded from all college property except a sign board provided for that purpose. Regulations were adopted for the annual class rush, football game and the baseball game. A committee composed of Reinhold H.-P., Long, M., and Yoh, C., was appointed to draw up rules for an inter-class field meet, which will include all classes.

The class definition appears to us good, as it is made on the basis that a man belongs to the class with which he will graduate. Any man, unless he be a laggard, can work off three and one-half conditions in four years, or can graduate in three years if he has three courses to his credit. The lines are usually well drawn as to Juniors and Seniors. The regulation limiting hazing to the first three weeks will give an opportunity to the more barbarous to work off that feeling without seriously disturbing the school work of the whole year. The fact that it may be considered as a misdemeanor will tend to check abuses of the institution. The use of a special sign board for the paint and posters should add zest to the custom and eliminate the disfigurement of property.

An amendment was passed providing for a re-apportionment of Senators, if necessary, near the beginning of the new college year.

These laws will go before the groups for ratification in the near future, and it is hoped that they will be given careful and fair consideration. They are not all that is to be desired, it is true, but every one cannot be satisfied. The college has agreed to print the constitution and laws as soon as they are prepared. This should be done this year, if possible.

LETTER FROM JAPAN

Continued from page one

sun arose and Mount Fuji appeared at about the same time. Both brought forth shouts and clapping from the younger element, and expressions of joy from the older

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ones. A great deal of sketching is done and we teachers are in the private collections of a good many of the fellows. As we walk we pass school after school on the same peripatetic way of getting knowledge and exercise. For Tokyo is the school center, and when she pours out her three hundred thousand students about the same time into the mountains within a radius of one hundred miles, and the surrounding schools also contribute their share, one is not very apt to see only your own students on such a trip. And there is a remarkable absence of quarrelling and jollyng that we might expect in our own country. One of the nicest sights I have seen here was about one hundred girls of ten or twelve years of age, socks off, splashing up the Hakone mountains in the rain. The bare feet and many colored underskirts (the upper kimono having been pulled up on account of the rain) the bright cloths in which their balls of cold rice and relish were wrapped, and the eyes of wonder as they looked at the foreigner—all this was worth seeing. The tea houses get their quota of tea money, especially so if they are lucky enough to get their names in the local guide book as selling one of the special products of the region. The Japanese pair bought there, a cross between a

potato, raw, and a green winter apple, is fine for thirst as it changes to water in ones month. And the persimmon, too, not astringent but rather sweet, is very tasty.
At the beginning and end of each stage the fellows must line up and answer to the roll call. If one is late or loses his way it creates a good commotion. A conference takes place in the teacher's room and it generally ends up by some of the committee men and a teacher going out in the dark after the late ones.

Continued in next Issue

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

The topic, "Duty, Privilege and Excuses," was discussed by Miss Stout at the joint meeting of the associations. The following facts were some of those brought out by the leader:—"Duty is that which one is bound to do by natural, legal or moral obligation. We first owe duty to our fellow man then to our God. By keeping the first the second will be fulfilled. Christ bids us follow him. It is our privilege to follow or reject him. After our duties have been shown to us, we begin to make excuses. Everywhere, everybody has an excuse for neglecting duty. The most frequent apology given is—I have no time. Love to God and service to man are imperative duties and are indispensable to happiness. None of our excuses are legitimate to free us from our duty to Christ

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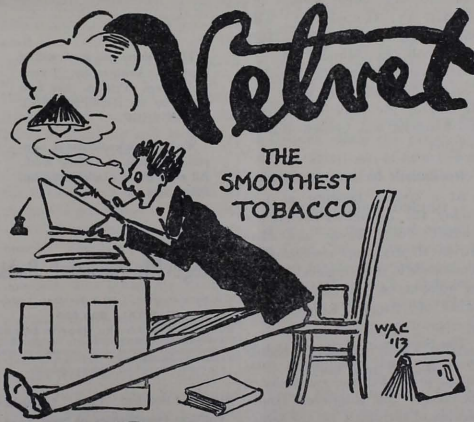
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ROBERT THOMPSON'S DEATH

Continued from first page.

the beautiful and simple character possessed by our departed friend and held it up as an example for us to follow. Dr. Omwake brought out the sterling qualities other than the athletic prowess of our friend that made him admired and loved alike by grown men and little children. The chapel was well filled with students and townspeople.

Resolutions

The Literary Societies dispensed with their regular meetings on Friday night in respect to the memory of the deceased.

The Senior class met on Thursday afternoon and expressed their sorrow for the death of their classmate, Robert Thompson, and extended sympathy to his brother Kerr and the family.

On Friday, immediately after chapel, the Student Senate met and in the name of the student body extended sympathy to the bereaved family of Robt. Thompson.

The Mathematical Group met on Friday and drew up resolutions of grief, condolence and sympathy on account of the death of their fellow member, Robert Thompson.

Glee Club Concert Postponed

On account of the death of Robert Thompson, the Glee Club concert announced for to-morrow night, has been postponed until Tuesday, March 19.

Shellenberger, '15, who had to leave school the first of last November because of an affliction of jaundice, returned to college on Friday and resumed his regular class work to-day.

New Weekly Staff Elected. Reinhold Chosen Editor

At a meeting of the Weekly staff on Friday the following were chosen to guide the fortunes of this paper for the year beginning with the March 25th issue: Business Manager, Yoh, '13; Assistant Business Manager, Ensminger, '14; General Staff: Miss Hain, '13; Lamont, '13; Reinhold, '13; Wetzel, '13; Miss Wagner, '14; Hess, '14; Small, '14; Minich, '15.

At a meeting of the Board of Control on Saturday night the election of the Staff was ratified and Reinhold was chosen Editor-in-Chief.

Resolutions for Mr. Ringleben

At a special meeting at 1.30 Friday the Zwinglian Society appointed Yoh, Boyer and Miss Barnet to draw up resolutions of condolence to the Ringleben family on account of the death of the father of August Ringleben, a member of the society.

The Sophomore class met at 1.30 on Friday and appointed a committee to proffer the sympathy of the class to the Ringleben family because of the death of the father of their classmate August Ringleben.

Ashenfelter Resolutions

Last Tuesday the Junior class held a special meeting and drew up resolutions of sympathy for their classmate, Georgine Ashenfelter and the family on account of the death of the father last Sunday night.

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Historical-Political Club Discusses Political Possibilities of Next Year

At the regular meeting of the Historical-Political Club on Monday evening, March 4, a discussion of what will happen politically in a year from that date, was the main feature, Matz and Mauer gave the leading talks.

The club expects to present to the two literary societies, at their regular meetings on March 15, Dr. E. Stagg Whitin, of New York city, Secretary of the National Committee on Prison Labor, who will give a short talk on Penal Servitude in each society.