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The Ursinus Weekly, February 27, 1903

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The Ursinus Weekly

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COLLEGEVILLE, PA., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1903.

PRICE, 3 CENTS.

A VIEW OF ATHLETICS IN OUR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Games, such as football, baseball, basketball and field sports, are a necessary adjunct to a well governed and well directed school. This truth is now so generally recognized that it needs no proof. The school that is without sports is out-of-date, and its annual list of students shows a steady decrease. Sports furnish a healthful and adequate outlet for the excessive animal spirit found in almost every boy. They serve also to break in a pleasant manner the monotony of the daily round of studies and of school duties. Unfortunately, however, the steady increase in number of games played and the intense excitement and rivalry aroused by these contests have resulted in abuses and evils which have given rise to many questions concerned with the rightness or wrongness of these sports.

Most of these questions are due to the enormous growth of athletic competition which exists to-day among schools, colleges and universities. The keen desire to win and attain athletic supremacy is characteristic of the American student and has often caused him and the institution of his choice to do things that are questionable.

To avoid this excessive and dangerous spirit of competition it has been advised to confine athletic contests to members of the same school. But this plan would take away from our sports an element without which they would be tame—the element of school pride. Some rivalry might be stirred up between teams chosen from the same school, but it would not be sufficiently strong to arouse intense and wide-spread enthusiasm. Such a system would produce a careless style of play and a habit of regarding success and perfection with indifference. In sports as in studies the student must be taught to strive for accuracy and toward perfection. Inter-scholastic games furnish the incentive for the young athletes to work towards this end.

An unpardonable evil—that of professionalism—is doing much to condemn college sports, especially baseball and football—"in the court of good sense and right conduct." Schools and colleges are guilty of securing players for their teams in unprincipled ways. Men are played on teams who have no right to play, and others are played for an unreasonable length of time. To keep the sport clean and amateur the "Big Four" recently passed the rule that no player would be allowed to represent his alma mater more than four years. The purpose of this rule was to eliminate the growing evil of professionalism among colleges. Yet in spite of this commendable time limit, institutions attempt to play men who are not of "amateur standing." Who is responsible for this violation of the rules of fair play? The college authorities themselves must answer concerning the pure-amateur standing of players.

Another practice which is detrimental to the best interests of athletic sports is the offering of inducements in the shape of money to promising players who contemplate entering some college. It is no longer a secret that emmisaries are

sent out through the minor colleges and schools to hunt for football and baseball material. The man or the institution that can offer the inducements or that can bring the largest amount of influence to bear upon the young player generally wins in the skirmish. The promising young player receives a scholarship or some other remuneration. His intellectual gifts and attainments are made of secondary importance. Athletic powers and ability is everything. When all is said there is but one standard which should regulate every school and college in our country in the choice of their teams. Every member of the team must be a bona-fide student who gets no remuneration of any sort for this participation in athletics other than the praises of his fellows and his own feeling of pride. Every possible means should be employed to prevent any man from attending college for the sole purpose of engaging in sports.

The general acceptance of the system of hiring professional coaches does not justify the practice. Since perfection is the one great ideal in sports as in other worthy pursuits of life it may seem that a professional coach is the shortest cut to that end. We feel however that graduate coaching is far superior to professional for the players do more work for the graduate coach than they do for the hired coach from another institution. Between graduate coach and player there is a feeling of companionship and mutual interest for alma mater which cannot exist between professional coach and player. In the latter relation the player looks upon his coach as a task-master whom he is to fear and obey and for whom he is to work. The graduate coach asks for the team to work with him, not for him, and on this account gets a much heartier response in the way of work and training from the team, for both player and coach are working for the glory and honor of an institution to which both owe their most loyal devotion and service.

A sort of evil in our sports which demands attention is the unmanly conduct of teams and their adherents on the athletic field. Here it is that the American boy's overzealous desire to win crops out and causes us so much trouble. Schools and colleges seem to forget that courtesies are due to a visiting team and fail to show that the spirit of fairness which is found in the person who is governed by reason and common sense. "Guying" the visiting team with the sole purpose of disconcerting the forces is conduct which cannot be too severely criticised. Occasionally "guying" is salutary and serves to work a reform in the style of play of some man, but it is universally recognized as a breach of courtesy towards a visiting team. Cheering which causes a skillful player to lose his head is not praise-worthy. In a recent baseball game the pitcher became so "rattled," on account of the terrific rooting of the friends of the opposing team that he lost entire control over the ball and lost the game which was apparently won by him. Was this a fair test of skill? Did such a victory carry with it any real honor? Our view is that only that cheering is legitimate that is elicited by a good play on the part of either side.

There is no real objection to concerted cheering and college yells if they are given at a time when applause is required to reward a good play. The tendency to cheer for the purpose of causing the signals to be indistinctly heard and of inducing a case of "rattles" among the visiting players can never be sanctioned by those who love fair play.

The standards set forth in this paper are doubtless in some instances ideal, but all lovers of fair play will agree that clean athletic sports must be protected from every tendency which endangers a wholesome growth and influence of these sports. Like the powers of Niagara, they can either be made a source of great pleasure and benefit or the means to viciousness and evil temptations. To keep pure this source of beautiful pastime the character of the players and the spectators must be kept on a clean, moral plane.

N. F. GUTSHALL, '03.

MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

A large attendance was only one of the features of the club's meeting, Monday evening. The papers treated a live problem in political circles to-day, and were provocative of a general discussion full of warmth and interest.

Alvin E. Wagner, '03, discussed "The Territorial Policy of Congress prior to the Accession of Porto Rico and the Philippines." The form of government as now established in Porto Rico was contrasted with that provided by the Act of 1787, after which our territorial organization had closely followed previous to 1898.

A discussion followed as to the territorial policy which Congress is pursuing since the late decisions of the Supreme Court. John H. Poorman, '03, opened the question with a paper entitled, "Does the Constitution follow the Flag?" "Our policy toward acquired territory previous to the war with Spain was one of consistency, giving such territory a territorial form of government. But in one day that consistency was cast aside and precedent thrown to the winds. When Justice White, of the Supreme Court, in announcing his opinion in *Downes vs. Collector of the City of New York* on May 27, 1901, said: 'To-day this Court will hold that the Porto Rican Tariff Act is constitutional—that while Porto Rico was not a foreign country after the ratification of the Treaty of Paris, it was a foreign country after the passage of the Foraker Act and the adoption of the Porto Rican tariff by Congress,' when these sentiments were voiced as those of the majority of the Supreme Court, then it was that our nation embarked on untried seas; then it was that these United States, formerly composed of states and territories, admitted to their sovereignty a new sort of plaything, the dependency.

"Was our territorial policy of the past insufficient, then, to cope with the new problems which have arisen? Was a change in policy necessary? Is it essential to our welfare to regard Porto Rico and the Philippines as mere possessions, or dependencies, not even a part of the United States? So the Supreme Court decided. But where is their authority in the face of all precedent to the contrary? We claim that

Continued on fourth page.

CALENDAR

- Friday, Feb. 27, Literary Societies, 7.40 p. m.
Sunday, March 1, Services in Chapel, 8.00 p. m. Address by W. A. Mosteller, M. D., of Phoenixville.
Monday, 2, Monthly Meeting of the Audubon Science Club in Y. M. C. A. Room, 7.15 p. m.
Tuesday, 3, Chorus Rehearsal, 7.15 p. m.
Wednesday, 4, Y. M. C. A., 6.40 p. m. "The Power of a Christian Life."
Thursday, 5, Thirty-Fifth Y. M. C. A. Convention opens at Lebanon, 2.00 p. m.
Sunday, 8, Convention closes, 9.00 p. m.

GOD'S HAND IN HISTORY

In beginning his address before the Y. M. C. A. Sunday evening, Mr. F. G. Hobson, Fsq., '76 entered a protest against the law designating the following day (Monday) as a legal-holiday to celebrate Washington's Birthday. The speaker claimed that the birthday of the greatest of the founders of the nation was indeed sacred enough to be observed on a Sunday, that there need be no conflict between the observance of such a holiday and that of religious duties.

"The overruling Providence of God is apparent in the great movements and crises of history. We should see His hand moving as perceptibly in modern history as in ancient, calling Penn to the wilds of America as much as Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees, raising the slave-emancipating Lincoln as much as his prototype, Moses, encouraging the heart of the President to face needed reforms just as Nehemiah of old,—in fact, we must see God's Providence guarding the onward progress of this nation as much as that of the ancient Israelites. In the discovery and colonization of America, in the founding of the State from a heterogeneous lot of warring colonies with diverse interests, especially, in the character and lives of the foremost men of the nation during all this time, God's purpose shows itself.

"And in the character of none is this more noticeable than in that of Washington. He was not an orator. He was not much of a writer. But, brave, reserved, of strict accountability, of steadfast purpose, hopeful in the worst defeat, he was a happy combination—a man of great common sense. Above all else, however, he was a Christian. At Valley Forge, in his inaugural and farewell address he emphasized strict attention to religious obligations and the utter insufficiency of education without due regard for religion, and frequently he reiterated his belief that alone as God would help America, could she succeed. The study of such a man's piety and patriotism should be of vital interest to us. As Christians we should have the patriot's duty at heart. Piety and patriotism should be as twin flowers growing on the same stalk. Our chief joy should be in seeing the flag and the Bible together, supplementing one another. Our chief duty is to keep them as co-regents over this land and over all others in our sovereignty."

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FRIDAY, FEB. 27, 1903.

EDITORIALS

Versatility of ability and dissipation of energy often go hand in hand. The very fact that one has the power to apply himself fairly successfully to many useful employments places in his path the possibility of scattering what forces he has over wide surface and so in the end apparently accomplishing little.

This is very true with reference to the man in college, and it is doubly true of the man in the small college. Here the work to be done by the student-body is great and various, and the workers who are found worthy, are relatively few. So it comes about most readily that a few men, so inclined and so gifted, get in their hands nearly all the interests that the student-body has. Men who play baseball are called in to strengthen the football team, the track team calls for the same all-around men. Those who show a business ability get several business jobs about the institution, when they recognize, themselves, that it were better for all concerned, if they had but one job. Men who show some literary ability are compelled to scatter energies in several fields where they would be more effective if it were possible to concentrate them in one. And so on.

There are none who realize this necessary dissipation more than those who are compelled to undergo it. It seems to them often that their life is going out in utter uselessness. They seldom have the satisfaction that comes from some work well and completely done. Their joy is not the joy of the man who is capable of doing one thing well and is doing that one thing well.

After all, may it not be that there are two great classes of men, men who are primarily broad and men who are primarily deep?

SOCIETY NOTES

"The Indian Giver," a farce by John Hendricks Baugs, was presented in the Schaff Society Friday evening of last week. The characters were: James Fairford, Mr. Haines; Mrs. Inglehart, Miss Ebbert; Miss Lawrence, Miss Paist; Mrs. Wenham, Miss Wolff.

Mrs. Inglehart is a beautiful, young widow, very capricious and hard to please, who is in love with Mr. Fairford, personification of truth and open-

heartedness. In one of her capricious moments, she gives up all claim to him to her friend Miss Lawrence. Soon after, Mr. Fairford is invited to Mrs. Ingleheart's elegant home, where Miss Lawrence is a guest. Fairford and she quarrel almost immediately upon the former's arrival. Mrs. Wenham, the young widow's mother, constantly admonishes her to pursue a course more in keeping with her feelings but to no avail. No sooner does Fairford evince a liking for Miss Lawrence than all the jealousy of Mrs. Ingleheart is aroused and on her knees she begs the return of her gift from her young friend. It then develops that Miss Lawrence had been at no time open to receive the gift, since her hand had already been given to another, and the young widow is made happy by a reconciliation with Fairford.

An essay by Mr. Gettell on "History and Literature," a reading by Miss Hobson, "How it happened" by Riley, a mixed quartette and the gazette completed the program.

A second play, "The Fatal Message," by William Dean Howells, will be presented this evening.

The Zwinglian debated the question "Resolved, That much reading of newspapers and magazines should be discouraged in the interests of sound knowledge." The affirmative speakers, Miss Stoner, Messrs. Townsend, Rapp and Poorman, claimed that the college man has not the time at his disposal to spend much of it in reading the newspapers and the magazines of the day. A well-rounded life demands a symmetrical development in all spheres of knowledge and activity. That the standard authors of the past are neglected or rendered of no effect by such reading in large quantity, is only a commonplace. The speakers for the negative, Messrs. Bordner, Price, Sando and Peters tried to show the great educative value of the newspaper and the magazine as the promulgator of the best thought of the present in literature, art and science. They prepare the popular mind for the often more abstruse and dense works of lasting value and often serve as the only instruments of enlight-

Hon. Clinton Rogers Woodruff of Philadelphia will address the students, Tuesday evening next, on "The Municipal Problem."

The Chorus rehearsal will be postponed until Wednesday evening.

FRESHMAN DECLAMATION CONTEST

The Zwinglian Literary Society held its Sixth Annual Freshman Declamation Contest last evening. Six members of the class of 1906 had prepared to compete for the prizes, but Mr. Roy V. Hart-

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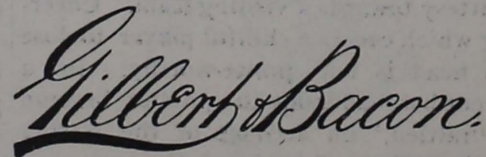
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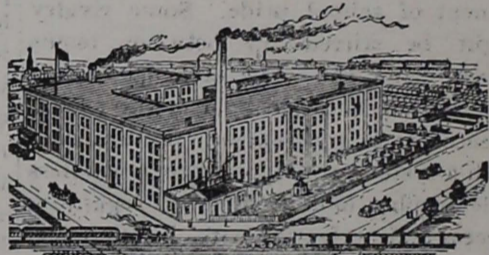
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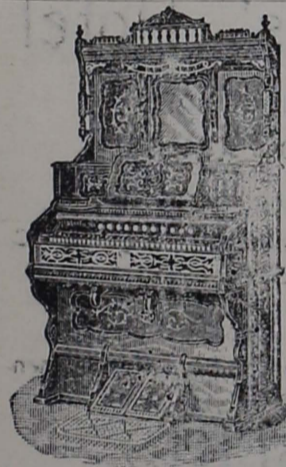
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man was called to his home a few days before on account of sickness and was unable to enter the contest. The different contestants had trained faithfully and acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. Two prizes as heretofore were offered, one of ten dollars in gold and a second of five dollars. The judges, Miss Jessie Royer of Philadelphia, Rev. W. O. Fegely of Trappe, Pa. and Mr. Gustavus E. Oswald of Denver, Pa., awarded first prize to David R. Wise of Reading, second prize to Mary E. Behney, of Myerstown Pa., and honorable mention to Miles A. Keasey, of Dover Pa. The program in full is as follows:

PIANO SOLO: "April Showers,"
Wilhelm Fink.

MISS EDMA B. BOSTON,
Centremoreland, Pa.

DECLAMATION: "The Healing of the Lepers,"
From *Ben Hur.*

MISS MARY E. BEHNEY, Myerstown, Pa.

DECLAMATION: "The Shepherd's Trophy,"
Ollivant.

DAVID R. FARINGER, Collegeville, Pa.

VOCAL SOLO: "Answer,"
Robyn.

MISS ANNA L. BROWN, Royersford, Pa.

DECLAMATION: "The Convict's Soliloquy the Night Before Execution,"
ROY V. HARTMAN,

Stony Creek Mills, Pa.

DECLAMATION: "Manuel Before the Pope," From "*The Master Christian.*"

MILES A. KEASEY, Dover, Pa.

VOCAL SOLO: "A Dream,"
Bartlett.

MISS ANNA L. BROWN, Royersford, Pa.

DECLAMATION: "The Revolutionary Rising,"
Reade.

ROY E. MABRY, Mertztown, Pa.

DECLAMATION: "The Honor of the Woods,"
Murray.

DAVID R. WISE, Reading, Pa.

PIANO DUET: "Witches' Flight,"
Russell.

MISS MARY E. SHADE, Royersford, Pa.

MISS EDMA B. BOSTON,
Centremoreland, Pa.

DECISION OF THE JUDGES AND AWARDING OF THE PRIZES.

URSINUS PUBLICATION, NO. 2

THE COLLEGE

Number 2, of Series 1, of The Ursinus Publications has just appeared. It contains the information which has heretofore been embodied in the annual catalogue of the College, a publication which hereafter will not be issued. The Ursinus Publications will be published bi-monthly and will thus serve as a periodical of publicity for the institution and will,

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without doubt, bring the work of its several departments before the public in more effective and systematic form than can be done by separate annuals and occasional publications.

The changes which we note are as follows: Students may be admitted to the college in advanced standing and so may receive the degree of Bachelor of Arts in three years. Candidates for matriculation may complete sufficient courses to enable them to secure the A. B. degree in less than four years of college residence. One new course is added, the Latin-Mathematical, embracing as majors, as the name indicates, Latin and Mathematics. Two new scholarships are added. The names of the students appear under the groups to which they belong instead of the old class system, the year being indicated as 1st. year and 2nd. year, etc.

ALUMNI NOTES

'93. The Rev. G. W. Welsh, of Manheim, Pa., has accepted a call from the Woodcock Valley Charge in Huntington Co., Pa., and expects to enter upon his duties there April 1. He succeeds the Rev. H. H. Hartman, '94, now of Dayton, Ohio.

'96. S. T. The Rev. Ross F. Wicks, pastor of the Fourth Reformed Church Dayton, Ohio, expects to leave for Europe June 3, where he will visit a number of cities under the auspices and in the interest of the National Cash Register Company.

The Rev. Chas. B. Hinley, '00, pastor of the Dallastown congregation has accepted the position of instructor in the York High School.

Laundale Methodist Episcopal church on Second Street Pike, Philadelphia has paid off a debt amounting to about \$2000. The mortgage was burned at last Sunday evening's services by the pastor, the Rev. John Watchhorn. The congregation was organized about five years ago and shortly afterward erected a church at a cost of about \$4000, all of which has now been paid, leaving the congregation free from debt.

The Rev. F. A. Guth, '84, of Ringers, Pa., has been elected pastor of the Reformed congregation at Shoernersville, Pa.

The Rev. J. Hunter Watts, '94, was elected President of the Lancaster City Christian Endeavor Convention held in the Moravian church on Friday February 13.

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MONDAY NIGHT CLUB

Continued from first page

Porto Rico and the Philippines are integral parts of the United States as much as Alaska, New Mexico or Arizona, which, of course, is denied by the Supreme Court and the Administration. The former view is supported by a long series of Supreme Court decisions; the latter has departed from custom and is experimental. Accordingly, the newly acquired territories are subject to all the provisions of the Constitution, and their inhabitants are entitled not only to be protected in life, liberty and property, but also to a far greater boon, citizenship, which the Supreme Court has denied them.

We hold further, that the Constitution and the whole of it inviolate follows the flag, no matter what the exigencies; the Supreme Court claims that only such part of the Constitution as Congress shall direct (what arbitrary power!) apply to Porto Rico and the Philippines. But dare Congress juggle in such a manner with the supreme law of the land? If it dare, we are surely passing from the era of constitutional liberty, guarded and protected by a written constitution, into an era of absolutism in respect of many rights that are dear to all peoples who love freedom. If the Constitution is not liberal enough, liberalize it, but do it in a legitimate way, by the right of amendment, thus giving the people a voice. But till then it needs be proved that the document, 'framed for all ages,' as Chief Justice Marshall delighted to say, is too narrow."

The gist of Mr. Townsend's (1905) paper on "Imperialism: Its Necessity," follows: "Nations thrive by trade; if their trade diminishes by reason of new discoveries, scientific advancement, through their own blind adherence to prescription in the face of necessary departures, or through cumbrous and inelastic government, they must either decay or attempt to gain by war what they failed to gain by underselling. Driven on by self-preservation, man seeks the paths of least resistance, which paths are the cheapest trade routes and their depots. History proves this principle. England was Mistress of the Seas and the most powerful

nation, by virtue of controlling the East to West oceanic travel routes. There are two systems, the overland system which centers at Moscow and ends at Hamburg, controlled by Russia and Germany, and the oceanic. These two are in eternal competition. Russia and Germany balked Japan's advance in China in 1894, for fear of her opening a trade route to our Pacific coast, which would jeopardize the Russia-German overland route. In 1898 the United States spread out into Asia, and in 1900 preserved the integrity of China. The Panama Canal, the West Indies, with our supremacy in steel, will draw commerce to us as a focus. The new possessions must be held as reserve outlets for our products in case the nations of Europe should introduce commercial cooperation against us, as our advance in European markets is viewed as a peril.

Home economic necessity also demands expansion. The arable lands of the west are exhausted; soon the strain must tell. The western Utopia exhausted, the westward stream must cease. This would increase the supply of laborers, and if anything, decrease wages. Hence the advisability of holding the tropics as the new west. The Supreme Court decided the constitutionality of holding foreign colonies, hence a colonial policy should be created, free from politics, and prolonged until growth and training justify Congress in advancing the political status of the new territories. A colonial policy, more feasible and capable of moulding the diverse population with greater facility, and being a shorter way of arriving at a desired end, should be adopted instead of experimenting blindly along uncertain paths.

Hurrah! It used to be Hurray, and the cry is as old as England. It is the battle cry of the old Norse Vikings as they swept down to burn and murder among the peaceful British. "Turaie," was their war cry, which means "Thor aid," an appeal for help to Thor, the God of battle."—*Ex.*



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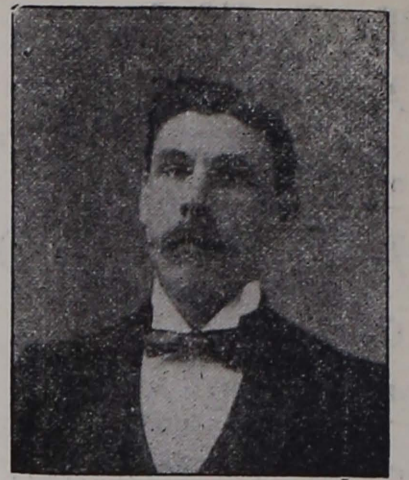
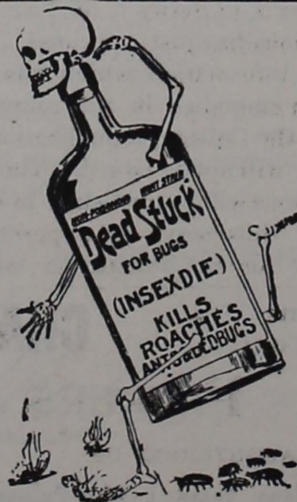
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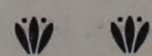
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