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## The Ursinus Weekly, April 3, 1903

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# The Ursinus Weekly

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VOL. 1. NO. 26.

COLLEGEVILLE, PA., FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1903.

PRICE, 3 CENTS.

## LIKE THE RIPPLES

Standing on the verdant banks  
Of a babbling brook or stream,  
Where the flowers give Nature thanks,  
Many joys the soul will dream.

As the thoughts and feelings dance  
With the silvery little waves,  
Passing by with but a glance  
Onward to the ocean's graves;  
Can the soul do aught but see  
Visions of our fleeting life?  
Dancing, singing, full of glee,  
Dashing here and there in strife.

Like the ripples, so our days,  
Coming here, and passing by;  
Some have caught the radiant rays,  
Some are murmuring a sigh.  
WM. HARVEY ERB, '93.

## HOME RULE FOR CITIES

The municipal problem is before us. There is no escaping or dodging it. "The city is the dominating factor in our commercial, industrial, social and political life. In numbers, territory, population, wealth and resources, our cities are growing marvelously." In fact, the development of the past century has been a municipal development, both as to statistics and functions. Naturally enough, therefore, the size of our cities and their prominent role in the national life render their government a matter worthy of our attention, and seeing, as no one can fail to see, that they have been almost uniformly inefficiently, if not corruptly, governed, we are face to face with a problem of immediate and vast importance.

Perhaps, we can solve this enigma best by studying the characters in the strange and well-nigh pathetic comedy. Accordingly, let me first introduce to you the boss, a man of extraordinary intellect—for trickery, the manipulator of a semi-barbarous code of morality—a god among a host of clients and hangers-on equally as base as their master. Then, we see the Mayor, the District Attorney and other officials, famed for their dishonesty, fraud and inefficiency as much as for monthly recreation-trips to the balmy resorts of Florida. Following these, we have the councilmen—honorable men, indeed, they are all honorable men. Have they not given valuable franchises away for absolutely no return to the city? Yet why need they care? Great is their reward; for even now their coffers overflow with corporation gifts. And, let us not pass the man of money too hurriedly; he it is, who runs the government; he it is, who oils the wheels of the slowly-laboring mechanism.—But, what a motley crowd is this? Ah, 'tis election day! Most of the real citizens are not aware of the fact; whilst repeaters and impersonators, the willing slaves of the unscrupulous politician and his heelers, are out in force. Once more the gang has the right of way, once more the flag of corruption floats triumphantly o'er the standard of righteousness—and the Sleeping Giant wakes up next morn to read the story of fraud as told in large headlines in the daily press.

As we now have the setting of our too, too real face, we may ask, what has

brought about this state of affairs? Why was Croker such a necessary adjunct of New York City till only a few months ago? Why is the "Grand Old Man of Pennsylvania," the so-called superior of Webster, so essential to the welfare of Philadelphia, "possibly the worst governed city in the civilized world?" The great defect in the government of our cities seems to lie in the fact that, whether they want to or not, they *must* be subject to the will of the State Legislature. This pernicious system of interference in local affairs on the part of state legislators has caused the neglect of measures of weighty importance to the state itself; it has deprived our cities of self-government; it has robbed our citizens of all natural ambition for honest politics; it has instilled into them an almost eternal lethargy, making cities and citizens veritable weaklings; the facilities for corruption have thus been increased; the power and opportunities of the boss have thus been enlarged; "Ripper" bills and similar *outrageous* measures, the product of despotism tempered by partisanship, have cut people to the quick, and have worked ruin and desolation to such an extent as to have led students and observers of affairs, at home and abroad, to maintain that democratic representative government is a failure, making American citizens the laughing-stock of the world.

Panaceas of all kinds have been prescribed by learned and unlearned. Of them all, there are two which must appeal to us as the most rational and practicable. The first is the management of city affairs on a business basis. Make municipal administration as much of a profession as that of civil engineering or the law. And, unless you distinguish between administration as a matter of business and legislation as a matter of policy, neither Civil Service Reform nor any other scheme will be of much avail. However, to bring our first remedy into complete operation, it is necessary to realize the second—home rule for cities. As Dr. Parkhurst puts it: "It is not what a city has done for it, but what it does for itself that is *disciplinary*, that educates into a sense of responsibility. Even New York City might become a credit to American civilization if it knew that the honorable things that it does for itself would not be undone at Albany, if it knew that behaving itself is the only escape from the fruits of its own viciousness."

Continuance of the present evils or a rational attempt at remedy—which appeals to you to be our duty? Continue the power of the boss and that of the man of greenbacks, the mainstays of the American city, and saloons must continue to be under police protection, gambling houses and dens of ill-fame must continue to exist, ballot-stuffing and all other forms of fraud and dishonesty must still be said of leading features of our city government. Shall we tolerate such ignominy, such oppression? Shall we maintain our integrity as political slaves? The spirit of the fathers, the patriotism they cherished so well cries out to us to-day: "Give our cities home rule, let them govern themselves, let them feel that they are more than the mere tools of the State Legislature and the boss." Then,

and not till then, will the people rise in its strength, assert its might, dethrone the powers of darkness and corruption, and with Herculean endeavor strive for the realization of a larger, a nobler and a more useful municipal life in a brighter and happier dawn.

JOHN H. POORMAN, '03.

## ALUMNI NOTES

M. N. Wehler, '97, is rounding out his fifth year as principal of the public schools of East Berlin, Pa. As an educator, Mr. Wehler is a success, giving satisfaction to his patrons and doing credit to his *Alma Mater*.

J. Melville Whittock, '99, continues in the employ of a Reading Construction Company and has been engaged for several months on the new Philadelphia and Reading Railway bridge over the Schuylkill at Norristown.

The Penn Coaligna Oil Company of which I. L. Bryner, '92, is president now has a flowing 400 barrel well on its California oil field. Other wells are being sunk.

Mr. Thomas H. Matterness, '02, Principal of the Burrowes School, Lebanon, Pa., has been elected President of the Lebanon County Teacher's Association. Mr. Matterness will read a paper before the teachers at their regular meeting in April.

Mr. Gus. E. Oswald, Principal of the Denver Schools, Denver, Pa., was married in Lancaster on Friday last, March 27, to Miss Allie F. Witmyer, of Denver.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has consented to pay half the cost of placing a \$1200 pipe organ in the Reformed church at Perkasio, the Rev. E. S. Noll, S. T., '93, pastor, and a \$2500 one in the Reformed church at Hanover, the Rev. M. J. Roth, S. T., '93, pastor. The congregation at Perkasio is building a new church. The last services were held in the old building two weeks ago. The first services were held last Sunday in the new church which is being built by the congregation of which the Rev. J. W. Meminger, '84, Lancaster, is pastor.

E. Forrest Bickel, '00, has been chosen Valedictorian of his class at the Medico-chirurgical Medical College, Philadelphia. Mr. Bickel is suffering at present from weakness of the eyes brought on by close application to his studies and must have the college lectures read to him.

## PHILADELPHIA LETTER

Dr. Good delivered his lecture on "The Passion Play" in Pottstown, March 26th. He lectured at Hellam, Pa., Tuesday evening.

The students attended the Beecher Memorial Meeting in Witherspoon Hall, this city, Friday evening. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis and Dr. Russell H. Conwell.

Carl G. Petri and Edgar R. Appenzeller, of the Senior Class, tendered their classmates a dinner and reception at Olney, Tuesday evening.

## CALENDAR

- Friday, April 3. Literary Societies, 7.40 p. m.  
Saturday, 4. Lehigh vs. Ursinus at South Bethlehem.  
Schissler's Business College vs. Reserves, Athletic Field, 3.00 p. m.  
Monday, 6. Meeting of Audubon Science Club, 7.30 p. m. See Program.  
Academy Examinations begin.  
Wednesday, 8. Lafayette vs. Ursinus at Easton.  
Easter Vacation begins, 4.00 p. m.  
Friday, 10. Good Friday.  
Susquehanna vs. Ursinus at Selins Grove.  
Saturday, 11. Dickinson vs. Ursinus at Carlisle.  
Sunday, 12. Easter.  
Tuesday, 14. Easter Vacation ends, 8 a. m.  
Special Spring Term begins.  
Friday, 17. Manhattan vs. Ursinus at New York.  
Saturday, 18. Rutgers vs. Ursinus at New Brunswick.

The students held a mock synod Tuesday afternoon of last week. Several members of the Faculty were present and offered some helpful suggestions.

The Rev. Dr. J. W. Meminger, of Lancaster, and Prof. W. M. Rife, of Shippenburg State Normal School were recent visitors.

The Rev. Dr. T. P. Stevenson lectured in the chapel Tuesday morning on "The Bible in the Public School."

## AMONG THE COLLEGES

Many of the large universities are rapidly maturing plans for the pensioning of their teachers. President Schurman of Cornell University has recently announced a gift of \$150,000 to the university for this purpose.

Colgate University has received \$100,000 from James B. Colgate of New York, who has previously given \$1,000,000 to the institution.

Western Reserve is the recipient of a gift of \$100,000 from Mr. Carnegie for the establishment of a school for the training of librarians.

Mrs. Frederick F. Thompson, one of the board of trustees of the Teachers' College of Columbia University, is the donor of \$250,000 for a building for physical education and school hygiene.

Professor Sylvester Waterhouse, of Washington University, gave to that institution \$2,500, and \$5,000 each to Harvard, Phillips Exeter Academy and Missouri Historical Society, under the condition that the funds be invested and the interest accumulate until the year 2000, or such time as the funds shall amount to \$100,000.

Through the generosity of Mr. D. C. Mills, Messrs. William K. Wright and W. K. Palmer of the Lick Observatory left San Francisco on February 28, for Santiago, Chili, to make a series of astronomical observations.

THE URSINUS WEEKLY

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FRIDAY, APR. 3, 1903.

EDITORIAL

A gentleman made the remark of a certain woman that she was a wonderful woman because she excelled in the common qualities of life. There is a thought suggested here that should make the college man and the college woman think whether or not they are attaining the solidity of character which is so essential if one wishes to wear well in the battle of life.

As we spend our time at school, we are prone to try to fill the meaning of such words as "culture" and "polish." The stress of our effort seems to be laid upon attaining to some sort of perfection which we think peculiarly the college man's, belonging to him who has delved in book lore. But do we not fail to learn the lesson that the strong common man or woman can teach us—that our college life should not plaster nor paste upon us things, feelings, attitudes, qualities, or whatever we may call them, but should always be taking what is good in us and accentuating this in the building of ourselves? We are continually striving for something far away from ourselves, some star of attainment or accomplishment, while, lo, the good ever lies near.

Most girls learn to play and sing—but playing and singing are not going to make them worthy of bearing the name of "woman." The college youth may become an intellectual giant on a small scale; but this does not mean that he is becoming a man. Occasionally we hear of a strong man in a community who is blest with no accomplishments whatever, except that uncommon sense of common sense, as Mr. Lincoln once said.

He is a strong man and she is a strong woman who recognizes that there is a blessing in not *having* something which is of particular commercial value, but in *being*, perhaps, a poor body, plain and blunt, it may be and who loves a friend. Is not this truer culture? Let us look well to ourselves that we become strong in the simple, direct, and heart qualities that make for a courageous personality in ourselves, and a buoyant, sympathetic influence on men and women about us. It need not be a choice of external refinement or internal development—let it be both.

RACQUET LOVERS MEET

At a meeting of the Tennis Association called by the Vice-President Gutshall, '03, the following officers were elected: President, E. M. Sando, '04; Vice-President, J. E. Hoyt, '04; Secretary and Treasurer, C. S. Dotterer, '06; Members of the Executive Committee: Dr. Barnard, Profs. Gummere and LeCompte, and Miss Spangler, '03. Dr. J. R. Murlin was also elected to membership. Arrangements are being made to have the courts regraded. Students or any others desiring to become members will hand their names to one of the newly elected officers as soon as possible.

LOCALS

William M. Rife, '98, Professor of English Literature at Shippensburg State Normal School visited here Monday.

LeRoy Roth, '03, left Thursday on a business trip to Pittsburg.

Prof. Gummere entertained some of his relatives and friends with a neat "set-out" this week.

Kelley, our last year's coach, saw the game with Fordham.

There was an umpire in the game at New York.

Results of the Chess Tournament up to March 30:

	Won	Lost
Anson	4	8
Butz	1	3
Dotterer	5	5
Frederick	9	2
Fry	1	6
Prof. Gummere	10	1
Gutshall	3½	8½
Haines	4	3
Hartman	2½	4½
Hoffsommer	3	5
Hoyt	2	4
Hughes	3½	8½
Prof. LeCompte	6½	4½
Nunez	4	3
Place	5½	7½
Prof. Petersen	10½	2½
Rapp	6	3
Sando	0	2
Smith	0	4
Snyder	3	4
Schweyer	0	1
Wentz	2	5
Wise	1	2
Wismer	12½	½
Trexler	0	1
Spangler	2½	4½

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 The boys are wild, and prex is, too,  
 You never saw such a hulla-ba-loo,  
 CHORUS. — U-pi-dee-i-dee-i-da! etc.  
 Her voice is clear as a soaring lark's,  
 And her wit is like those trolley-car sparks!  
 When 'cross a muddy street she hits,  
 The boys all have conniption fits!  
 The turn of her head turns all ours, too,  
 There's always a strife to sit in her pew;  
 'Tis enough to make a parson drunk,  
 To hear her sing old co-a-che-lunk!  
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**ZWINGLIAN ANNIVERSARY**

A large audience was present at the Thirty-Third Anniversary of the Zwinglian Literary Society held last Friday evening. The program was rendered as published in the WEEKLY of last Friday. The music by the Arkless Brothers Orchestra of Norristown was varied and of a high class. The violin solo by Mr. Leon Arkless was especially appreciated. Charles A. Townsend, '05, of Philadelphia was Salutatorian. In his oration on "Athletic Insanity," the speaker plead for careful consideration of the ever-growing problem as to the place which athletics should assume in our schools. Athletics, as the chief feature of the universities, colleges and academies of to-day, is fast tending towards abnormal development, thus jeopardizing their higher and original aim, that of intellectual progress. Economization in college government is neglected and scientific reform in courses of study is rendered useless by systems of athletics which annually multiply in cost and increase the waste of time.

But, what about the qualities of football itself? Strip off the superficial decorations of an ethical code and all the superadded pretensions of an infatuated public and society, and you lay bare a game whose principles are the crude tactics of war.

To-day the predilections of youth draw him away from the sciences and practical studies. The scions of prowess and applause have drifted from the orator's platform and debater's hall to the green turf of the gridiron and the dull clay of the diamond. The integrity of the college may be assailed in time, when its vital forces will be tested between the steady light of its true purposes and the blinding brilliance of modern athletic extravagance. The rule of a higher intelligence commands us to moderate this excessive development of athletics and reestablish the rightful features of college life.

A paper presenting "A History of the Zwinglian Literary Society," was read by Malcolm P. Laros, '03, of Collegeville. The rise and growth of the society were traced in an interesting manner; some of its "ancient" customs were described; its founders, charter members and the classes which have been prominent in its work were recalled.

"Alexander the Great" was the subject of an oration by John B. Price, '05, of Saint Clair. The speaker pointed out

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personal qualities of distinction in Alexander, traced his conquests and showed the commanding position which he holds in history, influencing the whole trend of the world's progress.

A declamation entitled "Absolution," by E. Nesbit, was delivered by Miss Alma J. Clamer, '04, of Collegeville. "Thomas B. Reed" was the subject of the eulogy by John E. Hoyt, '04, of Hammonton, N. J. Of powerful frame and gigantic intellect, possessed of a genial wit, of unimpeachable integrity, an American through and through, Thomas B. Reed left his stamp on the legislative branch of government just as Marshall and Lincoln had set the seal of their individuality upon the judicial and executive branches. His fame rests not so much on his delightful personality, nor on his intellectual abilities, nor yet on his argumentative and forensic skill, as on his one great achievement in Congress—the compulsion of the acquiescence of the minority to the will of the majority. The inspiration of a noble and clean life lived in defense of right amid the corruption of politics will cause the statesman's deeds to live again in the lives of others.

The Zwinglian Oration was delivered by John H. Poorman, '03, of Lebanon, on "Home Rule for Cities."

A delightful reception was held at the completion of the program. The Anniversary Committee, comprising Messrs. Peters, '03, Rapp, '03, Sando, '04, Miller, '05, and Miss Behney, '06, received in the Reading Room. Refreshments were served in the Y. M. C. A. and History rooms.

The decorations were of a unique character, arranged by a special Decorating Committee. The stage was set off with palms and other plants in the foreground; a band bearing "Zwinglian" in letters of Navy Blue, the society's color, was draped in the background, terminating in shields bearing "1870" and "1903" respectively. Similar designs in college and society colors enhanced the arrangement of the refreshment rooms and library; lace curtains and Chinese lanterns added much to the cozy corners in the latter's alcoves.

**AUDUBON SCIENCE PROGRAM**

At the meeting next Monday evening, Mr. Graber will read a paper on "The Biological Basis of Heredity." Another paper will be presented by Mr. Gutshall on "Some Needed Reforms in Our System of Education." The meeting promises to be interesting and deserves a large attendance.

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#### ATHLETICS

URSINUS 14

P. I. D. 0

On Saturday the 28th of March, Ursinus opened the baseball season by a game with the Pennsylvania Institute for the Deaf and Dumb. The game was interesting for the first few innings, but after the fifth inning we began to draw ahead, finally piling up 14 runs. Ursinus infield played a steady game and Mabry pitched in promising form. Our batting must be strengthened; Kurath pitched a heady game, but that fact should not close our eyes to our poor hitting. Price and Kelley led the batting.

The score :

URSINUS.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Kelley, c. f.,	4	3	3	0	0
Price, c.,	2	4	11	0	0
Watt, 3b., 1b.,	1	0	2	1	0
Roth, l. f.,	0	1	0	0	0
Hoffsommer, 2b.,	1	0	6	4	0
Snyder, ss.,	3	0	0	1	0
Faringer, r. f.,	0	1	1	0	0
Gettel, 3b.,	0	1	0	1	1
Chamberlain, 1b.,	1	0	3	0	0
Mabry, p.,	0	0	1	0	0
Townsend, p.,	3	2	0	1	0
Total,	14	12	27	8	1
P. I. D.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.
Brookbank, ss.,	0	0	0	2	1
McDonald, l. f.,	0	0	0	1	1
Dodson, 2b.,	0	0	0	5	1
Hindman, c. f.,	0	1	0	0	0
Cosinitski, c.,	0	0	8	0	1
Goss, 3b.,	0	0	1	0	1
Newcomer, r. f.,	0	0	1	0	0
Carrington, 1b.,	0	0	13	0	3
Kurath, p.,	0	0	1	4	1
Total,	0	1	24	12	9

Ursinus, 0 1 2 4 0 1 5 1 x—14  
P. I. D., 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—0

Umpire, John Lentz, U. of P. Place took right field in the eighth inning.

FORDHAM 17.

URSINUS 3.

The baseball team which had defeated P. I. D. with such a decisive score journeyed up to New York early Wednesday morning and by five o'clock at night had pocketed a clean defeat. The start

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in the morning was made at six o'clock, and there was a long walk from the Fordham Heights Station, with little solid rest between; so the boys were pretty well fagged out when the game began.

It was almost a merry-go-round performance for Fordham. They started in on Lafontaine, and after him they batted Mabry. But a team that held Yale down to the score of 5-2 four days before, with Bowman, of Hill School fame, doing the twirling for Yale—it was rather expected that they should trounce us.

The fielding of our men was pretty poor. The error column would not show so many bad plays as the spectator could tell of, but there were many misjudgements and many wild and erratic throws. Our fielding was not fast in recovery, and both infielders and outfielders should pay more special attention to this feature of the sport.

And then our batting—well, five hits, distributed between Faringer, Price and Watt, tell the complete tale of them. Their pitcher was simply too much for us. We could not hit a swift, straight ball, and he drew us on the wide outshoot. Batting certainly continues to be the weakest point. But why tell more—the team is working hard to get in better form and we all hope that there will be brighter things to say in the next issue.

“Bill” Thomas, who has been connected with Ursinus for some years past, is coaching the team for a few days before he leaves for Baltimore.

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