

HARVARD CREW WORK.

Great Improvement in Reach—Mr. Lehmann Pleased.

Cambridge, April 10.—With the return of Mr. Lehmann to the country three weeks ago, began the last and most important stage in the preparations of the Harvard Crew for the year's boat race. The work of the crew this year has been more satisfactory to those who hope for a crimson victory in the triangular race than for the past few seasons. The whole atmosphere of the aquatic world at Harvard has been healthier and freer under Mr. Lehmann's genial influence. There has been complete harmony between teacher and pupils. The oarsmen not only have full confidence in the ability of their coach, but they respect his gentlemanly and sportsmanlike qualities. Again, throughout the University there was a more hopeful and loyal spirit manifest than for some years. All these things have served to accelerate progress and lighten the task of the new coach who has undertaken to restore Harvard's lost supremacy on the water. The work last Fall was preliminary in its nature. Mr. Lehmann stayed long enough to explain his stroke to the candidates, ground them thoroughly in the essential characteristics, and familiarize them with his methods and theory of rowing. During his absence the men spent the time in learning at leisure the lessons which he had given them. How well they succeeded appears from Mr. Lehmann's own comment on their work: "I found them rowing in

he seems favorably predisposed, and speaks in warmest praise of the Yale eight which rowed at Henley last July. "A finer set of fellows I never met," he said to me recently when referring to them. He has met not a few Yale men during his stay in this country and has made many friends in the enemy's camp. The renewal of athletic relations between the two universities has given him the greatest satisfaction and there has been a keener zest in the work of the candidates during the past three weeks. Mr. Lehmann is with the candidates mornings, taking them out in pair oars and giving them special instructions to correct individual faults. In the afternoon the crew row in the shell and he coaches from the launch. He has also been giving some attention to class crews and all the crews are rowing essentially the same stroke.

MR. LEHMANN'S THEORY OF TRAINING.

The reports that Mr. Lehmann has introduced the English methods of training and that the men are allowed perfect freedom as to matters of diet must not be taken to mean that the men are allowed to do as they please without regard to their physical condition. The English views in regard to training are not so strict as those that prevail among American Colleges, but they are very well defined, nevertheless. In this connection Mr. Lehmann says: "I have not required the men as yet to be very strict in these matters, as we do not insist on a long period of training in England. The very object is to keep the men in the best physical condition. The greater freedom which can be granted them without sacrificing this end, the better, for it avoids monotony in the work. The candidates are expected to keep good hours as that is of course most essential. In the matter of food, we allow anything that is wholesome because the greater the variety the better the appetite is. Thus far I have allowed the men to drink whatever they choose. Later it will be necessary to restrict them somewhat. Ale will be the regular drink. In England ale is necessary for the men in order to enable them to stand the training in our climate. A long season of training, such as the crews here have, would not be possible without it. In matters of this kind, I shall wait and see what the men require. The English crews are allowed champagne occasionally to vary the monotony of the bill of fare. It freshens them up a little and we think it prevents them from getting stale. The chief difference between our system and that of the American athletes is that the restrictions in the men with us are imposed gradually as the season advances."

THE CREW PRACTICALLY SELECTED.

The present makeup of the University crew is:

Stroke, J. F. Perkins; 7, Goodrich; 6, Thomson; 5, J. H. Perkins; 4, Sprague; 3, Hollister; 2, Bull; bow, Wrightington.

In discussing the present outlook and the work of the individual men Mr. Lehmann says:

"The work in the barge has showed a steady and continued improvement. The stroke has lengthened out; the swing and balance have become better; the grip at the beginning is firmer; and the work of the blades in the water is on the whole clean and strong, although there is still observable a tendency here and there to feather under water.

"At present, the crew, having just taken to the shell are in one of their transition periods, but there is every reason to suppose that, when they have mastered those elements of watermanship which can be taught only in a racing ship, they will show both uniformity and pace.

"It is possible that one or two changes may have to be made, but my hope is that, accidents apart, the crew may now be taken as complete in its main features.

"Physically, the men are a fine powerful lot, fully as strong and well developed as the Englishmen who form the two University crews. They have not had the same racing experience as their English cousins, but this disadvantage may be to some extent counteracted by the longer preparation which they will have to undergo

(Continued on sixth page.)

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MR. R. C. LEHMANN.

very good shape, far better, indeed than I had expected. They showed more confidence and greater steadiness, which proved to my mind that they had been carefully thinking out for themselves, what they had been learning in the Fall and had been constantly endeavoring to apply these lessons under the guidance of skillful instructors. To put it in a different way, whereas in the Fall they had always to be thinking, with the recurrence of every stroke, of the various motions that they had to get through, as of something more or less strange or unaccustomed, it seemed to me when I saw them in March that these motions had become a sort of second nature to them, and that they therefore performed them with far greater facility and precision." Such high commendation was very gratifying to ex-Captain Storrow and Mr. Mumford, who had an eye on the men during the chief's absence, particularly to Captain Goodrich on whom the brunt of the coaching fell, and, owing to his position, a heavy load of responsibility as well. Since his return, Mr. Lehmann has devoted himself assiduously to his self imposed task and results thus far have satisfied him. He is an enthusiastic coach and is already casting a look ahead to the approaching triangular race. He seems to have caught some of the vigorous spirit of rivalry which animates our American colleges and which surprised the more sedate collegians of Oxford and Cambridge at Henley. But, with all his earnestness, he manifests a sportsmanlike friendliness for his rival which wins the esteem even of those who hope most cordially to see him defeated next June. His address to the Harvard students at Sanders' Theater last winter was a splendid plea for manly sport and if his listeners caught the spirit of it, there will be no occasion for future disagreement in the athletic relations of Yale and Harvard. To Yale, in particular, among Harvard's competitors,