

YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

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(NOTE.—The assistants from the staff of the Yale News for the current year have not yet been appointed.)

Entered as second class matter at New Haven P. O.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., OCT. 7, 1897.

THE OPPORTUNITY OF '98.

The Senior class of Yale has an opportunity which has not been given to any of its predecessors. Yale has at last been made to realize some things. It is admitted that Yale of to-day is a very different place from Yale of ten years ago. Besides, there is not the same self-satisfied feeling that things will care for themselves, and the lazy trust that someone—just the right man—is always sure to turn up at just the right time to do just the right thing, no matter how many people have been doing just the wrong thing for an indefinite time. It does not avail now to say, let well enough alone, for well enough refers to a state of affairs which has begun to pass out of the memory of the present college generation. It at last dawns on the consciousness of Yaledom, that Yale life needs a pulling together—and that it will take a great "pull together" to make things as they used to be.

And Ninety-Eight has its unusual chance because some evidences of the general spirit necessary for the renaissance are already seen. There is something in the air which makes one feel that all are ready to do their part, and await only direction. If the undergraduates found, at their meeting on Wednesday night (whose details are received too late for publication in this issue), any means for making effective at once this feeling, they did well.

A SMALLER CLASS.

We can say with all sincerity that we are not in the least bit regretful that the Academic Freshman class at Yale is not any larger, but rather smaller, than last year. Numbers do not indicate strength, necessarily, and while Yale has developed in these last ten years in many of the features of a University to a wonderful degree, there are some points in the life of Yale which have at least been seriously threatened by the tremendous growth. It cannot certainly be denied that there is less cohesive power in the institution than there was a decade ago. We do not believe there is any less of the spirit which combined all parts of the University harmoniously. It only seems to us to need time and thought and courage to adjust the old spirit and ways of doing things to the new conditions. The conditions are conducive now to reflection and to reconstructive action, and there is a good deal of both

going on in a quiet way. Until things are made over to a degree, it is just as well not to have too big a problem on our hands.

THE "SHEFF." CELEBRATION.

There is a simplicity in the arrangements for the semi-centennial celebration of the Scientific School which is quite characteristic. The School has always had a very straightforward, dignified way of doing things, which has indicated its strength and its confidence in itself. It will round out its first half century without the use of many brass or wind instruments, but in a way quite worthy. The exercises promise to be most satisfactory and interesting and we are much surprised if the alumni and friends of "Sheff" will fail to make the occasion a very conspicuous demonstration of their pride in the School.

THE BOATING POLICY.

Mr. Whitney has gone ahead with his eyes wide open, and after a liberal use of his judgment and common sense. Mr. Cook will take charge of Yale's oarsmen. The Captain and the Coach understand each other. Each knows the conditions under which he can, and the conditions under which he cannot, successfully work with the other. If any of these conditions fail of fulfillment, the agreement is off by mutual consent.

We expect to see the arrangement successfully carried through. There is nothing which would give a keener satisfaction to thousands of Yale men than Mr. Cook's perfect success, in every way, in his conduct of the crew of 1898. They remember his magnificent record of technical skill and unselfish service. They feel a personal interest in seeing that record fittingly rounded out. To that end they will ask of the oarsmen of Yale that they follow their leader loyally. They will expect of that leader that he shall command the situation, so shaping his course as to make it impossible that any right-minded Yale man should fail to follow with enthusiasm and implicitly obey. They will be satisfied with nothing less than this.

Intercollegiate Tennis.

The Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament opened at the New Haven Lawn Club ground here on Tuesday at 10 o'clock, with a good list of entries and a fair attendance. A full account of the tournament will appear in the next WEEKLY.

Steinert Scholarships.

The competitions for the Steinert Scholarships, which were to take place on Tuesday, October 5th, were postponed indefinitely, on account of the illness of Professor Parker. The Scholarships offered by Morris Steinert are for proficiency in organ, violin and piano-forte playing.

Yale Club Opening.

The Yale Club of New York City will open its doors informally to its members on Thursday, the 7th instant, and on Friday, October 15, the first "Club Night" and general opening of the clubhouse, at 17 East 26th st., will be held. On this latter night a general invitation to be present has been extended to all Yale men. The Council are particularly desirous that as many of the Faculty in New Haven as can find it convenient and agreeable to be present on this latter occasion should be there.

In order to meet the extraordinary expenses of the season, the Football Association has raised the price of admission to ordinary games from thirty-five to fifty cents.

MR. COOK WILL COACH.

Captain Whitney finally settles the Matter.—A thorough mutual Understanding.

On Monday of this week, Mr. Robert J. Cook, Yale '76, and Mr. Payne Whitney, captain of the Yale University Crew, held a final conference in regard to the coaching of the eight for the coming year. After the situation had been thoroughly discussed and understood on both sides, Mr. Cook was invited to take charge of the coaching and he has accepted the invitation.

It is apparent that Mr. Whitney and Mr. Cook fully understood each other, and that the lines which they have mutually agreed upon for the development of the Crew are those which come as near to assuring a successful handling of it as any which could be laid down at the present time. Mr. Cook feels that there have been certain conditions in the work for the last two or three years which have not offered the freest opportunity for the working out of the ideas of rowing in which he believes. He is therefore anxious to make another test under the best conditions possible before he closes his long connection with Yale's boating interests. While Mr. Cook insists on a fair opportunity for the application of pure rowing principles to Yale's athletics, he also appreciates the difficulties which have been thrown in the path of both Captain and Coach, justly or unjustly, from causes in which the personal equation plays an important part. It is thoroughly understood and emphatically stated that all these causes of criticism and trouble shall be absolutely removed.

Besides things already mentioned, it is known that the lack of unity of action among boating men has been one of the principal causes of weakness in the Yale Navy and has undermined the general confidence in the work of the crew. While Mr. Cook believes that it is absolutely necessary that one man shall apply the principles of rowing as they are understood to-day in the final effort to establish a definite system, he has directly expressed in a recent conversation his desire for, and his purpose to seek, the co-operation of many of the younger boating men.

In the University itself and among graduates, so far as their sentiment has been sounded, the majority opinion is strongly to the effect that Mr. Whitney has chosen the best course possible, and the almost universal feeling is a perfect willingness to wait for results before passing any judgment.

When Mr. Whitney was in England last Summer he met Mr. Guy Nickalls, probably the first oarsman of England, who as stroke of university and Leander eights, and as a participant in almost every other rowing event, has won a roomful of trophies in the last few years. Mr. Nickalls quite liked Yale from what he saw of her at Henley two years ago. In talking with Mr. Whitney, he said that he wanted to come to America this Fall. The Yale Captain said that he hoped very much that if he were in this country he would visit New Haven and Yale, and that if he were here he would certainly ask him to take a look at the Yale candidates for the crew. Mr. Nickalls accepted the invitation. Mr. Whitney does not know either when he will come or how long he will stay, and emphatically denies the report that he will in any sense take charge of the crew coaching. Mr. Nickalls and Mr. Cook know each other, and it goes without saying that all the advice which the Englishman can give will be very gratefully accepted.

The arrangements for the Fall Regatta are not complete as the WEEKLY goes to press. It will probably be held on Saturday, October 16th, or on the following Wednesday. The Academic and Scientific Freshmen and the Classes of Ninety-Nine and 1900 will enter a crew. Some so-called "scrub crews" may also be entered.

Yale Law School.

For circulars and other information apply to

Prof. FRANCIS WAYLAND,
Dean.

OPPORTUNITIES.

The late mythical Mr. Micawber, of pleasant memory, was described by the parent of his being, as of a cheerful and hopeful disposition, which contented itself in a willingness to wait for something to turn up. That easy-going, easy-spoken creed has many followers to-day. Good-hearted men they may be, short-sighted they must be. Dodging the actual question year after year, they wait for that improbable something to turn up, and awake at last to find life all but past.

This is the sort of man who refuses to see that "opportunity" is generally only another name for determined and consistent effort. Not one of them would admit that more men have neglected opportunity than lacked it. They come to us and say: "What if a man is possessed of a steady will and patience and common sense" (qualities as good as a fortune to their possessor), "they all count for nothing. Something must turn up!"

Take our word for it, nothing ever "turns up." What a world it would be! Things then would "turn down," doubtless, with equal facility. All true manhood, all striving and energy, and freewill itself—all would be eliminated from the life equation, and leave $A = \text{Success}$, $B = \text{Failure}$, with nothing to lift us from the deadly level of mere machines. Nothing, we repeat, ever "turns up"! It must be turned up, and you must do the turning.

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WALTER CAMP ON FOOT BALL



FOR OCTOBER,

Is the leading feature of the number, and is full of interest to college men.

No less interesting to the cyclist is A. H. Godfrey's illustrated article on "THE PHILA. MEET OF THE L. A. W."

MALCOLM FORD writes on all-round Championships under Past and Present Conditions.

OTHER FEATURES

of the strongest number of the year:

Fox-hunting in America—The American Canadian One-Rater Contests—The International Tennis of 1897—An Adirondack Buck—Four Days on the Prairie—Lullaby Mullen of Porphyry Gulch—A Day with the Cotton-tails—and the MONTHLY REVIEW OF SPORTS AND PASTIMES, conducted by WM. B. CURTIS.

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