



STUDY OF PHILOSOPHY AT YALE.

A Sketch of the Department—Its History, Men and Methods.

It is fitting that an American University with which the names of Jonathan Edwards, Bishop Berkeley, and Noah Porter are so closely connected, should stand in the front rank in the work of philosophical investigation, and in the opportunities it offers for the study of Philosophy. It will always be an inspiration to the philosophical student at Yale to remember that no men have had wider or deeper influence upon American thought in the field of philosophy than the two sons of Yale, Jonathan Edwards and Noah Porter; and also to recall the personal interest of the famous English Bishop in the welfare and progress of Yale as exhibited in his gifts to the University both in money and books.

And yet the great strides taken by Yale in this field of work during and since the time of President Porter is little realized even by our most recent graduates. It is the purpose of this article to indicate these changes by a brief recital of facts, perhaps not generally known to the friends and graduates of the University.

The results of investigations in many special fields have led to an increased interest in Psychology and Philosophy. Biology through the theory of evolution has become interested in Psychology because of the relation of mental to organic development. The study of Comparative Religions has necessarily led to an interest in man's mental processes when he interprets the world of nature and of morals. Sociology is taking more and more interest in the ideas and motives which have led men to form or to disintegrate social wholes. Recent years have consequently seen developed a Physiological Psychology, a Comparative Psychology, and a Folk-Psychology. Indeed, it is safe to say that no branch of human knowledge has within a few years increased to the same extent as has Psychology, either as to number and quality of workers, or as to general interest and promise of valuable results. It need hardly be added that all these developments affect the solutions of philosophical problems profoundly.

With all this general advance Yale has not only kept well in line, but in many cases has been a pioneer.

Fifteen years ago there was practically no organized graduate work in Philosophy. A few students, generally theological students, would meet Pres. Porter occasionally and he would help them over difficult places in their own reading. The catalogue for the current year specifies no less than twenty-three graduate courses in the Department of Philosophy; presented by a corps of eight instructors. Concerning the opportunities which these courses offer to the student we shall speak presently.

Turning to the present status and achievements of the Department, there is found all that could be desired. The continuous stream of students coming from Sweden and Japan, especially, indicates the reputation of the Department in those countries. Much evidence might be adduced, of a more or less private nature, however, to indicate its high reputation in Germany, France and England. Many of the theses from this Department presented to the University for the Doctorate have been recognized as valuable contributions to the knowledge of the subject with which they dealt. The thesis written by Prof. Nikashima of

the Imperial University in Tokio, Japan, was the occasion of leading articles in the most prominent German magazines; while the investigations of Dr. Gilbert on the Mental and Physical Development of School-Children, and Dr. Seashore's Measurements of Illusions and Hallucinations in Normal Life have been quoted and referred to in many of the most recent psychological works. Other examples might be added, but these are sufficient to indicate the value of the work prosecuted by the students.

If the success of a department is to be measured by the number of teachers it furnishes, the Department of Philosophy certainly has an enviable record. According to statistics kindly furnished by Dr. Buchner of the University of the City of New York; there are from thirty-five to forty instructors in Psychology, Philosophy and cognate subjects, having had one or more year's training at Yale, who are now teaching in the universities, colleges, and high schools in the United States, Japan and India. In the brief period since 1889, at least twenty Doctors of Philosophy have gone out to special positions. About two-thirds of the total number teaching are graduates of other colleges than Yale. Only four have taken their Ph.D. degree after leaving Yale and only ten have continued their studies elsewhere. These men have gone not only to very various sections of our own country, but to Japan, India and Sweden. In this country, professors of Philosophy now at Amherst, Union, Williams and Univ. of Pennsylvania, though graduates of the Divinity School, also received some instruction in Philosophy at Yale. Among other institutions which either have or have had instructors especially trained at Yale are the following: New York University, Univ. of Iowa, Univ. of Illinois, Chicago, Wesleyan, Adelbert, Trinity, N. C., Michigan, Smith, Butler, Univ. of Ohio, Penn. State College and so on.

In Japan, Yale is represented by the President of Doshisha College, and the only professor of Ethics under the Japanese government is also a Yale man; in India she is represented at Pasumalai, and in Sweden at Upsala.

In this record many have not been included who are now specialists in other fields of work, but who first had their interest aroused in these branches by their study of Philosophy.

One of the latest developments of Psychology has been the introduction of laboratory methods for purposes of experiment and measurement. The Yale laboratory, founded only six years ago, was among the first to be established in this country. During that brief period it has accomplished a remarkable amount. It has published four volumes of "Studies from The Yale Psychological Laboratory," and the fifth is almost ready for publication. It is the only American laboratory which publishes its results. The value of these publications has been already indicated, and the increased success of the "Studies" is a mark of general appreciation. As to present equipment, there is every reason to believe that for general teaching purposes it is the best equipped in the world; and for original research undoubtedly the best in this country.

This leads us to speak of the present opportunities for philosophical study at Yale. The Department is fortunate in having at its head a scholar, teacher and author of the highest ability and reputation. Professor Ladd is recognized as an authority of the highest rank in his field of work, both by his colleagues in this country and abroad. Especially marked and flattering is the attention and commendation bestowed upon Professor Ladd's works in Germany, France and England, some of

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YALE'S GIFTS PRESENTED.

Captain Wise Formally Accepts the Guns and Colors—The Three-Pounders Christened.

[Special Dispatch to YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY.]

Newport News, Va., June 7.—Yale's gifts to the Yale were formally presented to-day and formally accepted. The simple ceremonies took place on board the Cruiser, which is now anchored here, coaling, provisioning, painting and arming for further service in Southern waters.

Mr. Yandell Henderson, Yale, '95, arrived here this morning from New Haven as a representative of the University. Captain W. C. Wise of the Yale had been advised of his coming and was ready to receive him most hospitably. The crews of the Yale's guns were mustered and then the presentation of the University's gifts was made. Mr. Henderson had stopped at Washington on his way and Mr. John A. Porter, the Secretary to the President, had asked him to take with him a bottle of champagne for the presentation ceremonies. This was opened and Mr. Henderson made the presentation in these words:

"Captain Wise—Yale University presents these guns and colors to the Cruiser Yale, as an expression of appreciation for the honor done us by the Government in the naming of your ship. These guns testify the deep interest with which Yale men follow your ship and the enthusiasm with which we rejoice in your success.

"ELI" AND "HANDSOME DAN."

"We have named one gun 'Eli' after the founder of our University, the other 'Handsome Dan' for the bull dog mascot which has seen victory come to Yale in many contests in the friendly rivalry of athletics. We are proud that 'Handsome Dan' should have fired the shot which stopped the 'Rita,' the first prize of an auxiliary cruiser. May Yale luck always go with the Yale.

"I have the honor to present to you these guns and colors as a gift from Yale to her country."

Mr. Henderson then christened the guns and affixed brass plates bearing the inscription and name of the gun.

Captain Wise accepted the gifts in these words: "I appreciate the interest which Yale has shown in my ship, and I admire the spirit of patriotism and the pride in your great University which has actuated this gift. I will guarantee that these guns shall do no discredit to the name of Yale. Please convey my thanks to the men of your University."

The party then inspected the battery of eight five-inch rapid fire guns of the latest type with which the Yale is being armed. Two are forward, two are aft, and four amidships. All are mounted on the promenade deck.

The ship is coaling. After her last cruise of five weeks she reached here with only ten tons of coal in her bunkers. She is to be given a coat of battle paint.

The stand of fifty-one flags will be here this week. The Yale goes South Saturday.

Mr. Henderson was entertained at lunch to-day by Captain Wise.

On Sunday at noon the Yale Cruiser Fund Committee received advices from Captain Crowninshield, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, that the Yale was at Newport News and would remain there for three or four days.

After conference with Mr. Porter, who is the Washington member of the Committee, it was decided to send at once to Newport News Mr. Yandell Henderson, '95, one of the most active members of the Committee. Mr. Henderson was to formally present the guns and to attend to the matter of affixing the plates. He was also instructed to arrange with Captain Wise of the Yale in regard to placing the colors on the cruiser as soon as the set is completed.

Gift From Honolulu.

The following letter from Honolulu, under date of May 25th, has been received by a member of the Yale Cruiser Fund Committee:

"A few of us Yale men clear out here in the Pacific want to join our 'mite' to the Cruiser Fund, showing our appreciation of the honor conferred on dear old Yale. For days our little community has been on the lookout for Uncle Sam's boys in blue, expected here on their way to Manila, and the whole town floats the flags and streamers, besides raising a \$5000 entertaining fund. We want to be with you, sink or swim."

This letter is from Geo. R. Carter, '88 Sheff., very well known by Yale men here and elsewhere as one of the best athletes of his day, and in other respects a man who is sure to be well remembered. It is not necessary to say that no suggestion was made to the little band of Yale men in the Hawaiian Islands for this contribution. If anything else was necessary to make the fund seem a universal Yale contribution, this would do it.

Since the last Cruiser Fund report, the alumni at St. Louis have forwarded a check of \$37.00. Additional contributions have been received from Chicago, California and Cleveland, making their figures read as follows:

Chicago	\$297.00
California	251.00
Cleveland	150.00

Seats for the Boat Race for Weekly Subscribers.

The WEEKLY has obtained through the Navy management a limited number of seats on the Observation train, for the University boat race at New London, June 22. These may be obtained by Yale graduates, subscribers to the WEEKLY, by direct application to this office. Only two seats will be allowed to each applicant. The price is \$2.50 for each seat. Checks should be drawn to YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY, Treasurer, and must include twelve cents for registered mail.

No applications will be considered after noon of June 15. If the seats are exhausted or the application too late the WEEKLY will wire the applicant at his expense. Applications will be filled in the order of their post marks. Applicants must state their Class.

The Observation train will consist of forty cars, each seating 84 persons, of which Yale's share is 10 cars.

Glee Club Elections.

At a meeting of the University Glee and Banjo Clubs, held on last Monday evening, Thomas Skinker Maffitt, '99, of St. Louis, Mo., was elected Manager, and Frank Dexter Cheney, 1900, of South Manchester, Conn., was elected Assistant Manager for the ensuing year.