

## YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

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NEW HAVEN, CONN., JUNE 9, 1898.

## POOR CONDUCT OF ATHLETICS.

It is not necessary to try to say more about the exhibition of Yale baseball last Saturday than the facts themselves show. There is plenty of individual talent on the Yale Nine, and no one acquainted with him has the slightest doubt of the superior character and ability of its Captain. We also believe that the recuperative power of Yale will be shown before the season is over, and that the University may yet come out of the tests that are ahead of her with much more credit than the record thus far would seem to indicate.

But the fact is; Yale tried to play baseball last Saturday and miserably failed. Within recent years Yale has also tried to perform upon the track and the field, to play football and to row, and has often miserably failed. At all of these times her forces were under the leadership of men of superior character, and her teams included men with plenty of "stuff in them," as the phrase goes. These points made the record all the more disagreeable. Yale is not as a whole conducting her athletics well to-day. She is not making use of her resources and she is hurting herself. Yet Yale knows how to conduct athletics.

## SIDE LINE COACHING.

In writing to the WEEKLY recently, in regard to coaching at baseball, Professor Clapp wrote somewhat as though the WEEKLY had endorsed its abuses. In describing the incident at Richmond at the Easter trip, which was quite extensively advertised as a part of generally offensive action on the part of Yale, we stated the fact that the coaching referred to did not differ in substance from the general run of coaching; that the reference to the umpire was made in what would be described as a "jolly" way and not as a piece of personal abuse. We said that the umpire simply seemed to suggest something to the coach to talk about, and that the coach is always desirous of something new to talk about.

We did not mean to imply that that department of baseball was attractive to us or that we thought it added anything to the value of the game or to the reputation of the institution whose name it bore. It was simply our purpose to make clear that the partic-

ular individual had done just what nearly every other side line coach does. We did not believe in criticising him for the fault of the system, and we do not understand that Professor Clapp desires to emphasize any particular incident. If he merely wishes to say that the ordinary side line coaching had better be dispensed with for the good of the game and the good of any institution which is playing it, then we must express our hearty sympathy with him. Most of this kind of coaching is cheap and undignified, and it is in danger of being very nasty. The man who conducts it does not stop to think what he is really doing. We heartily sympathize with Professor Clapp in the desire that Yale should take the lead in stopping this practice altogether.

A letter from Mr. Allen, printed elsewhere, was received in time for the last issue, but crowded out by the unusual press of news matter. Since Mr. Allen felt that he had been misinterpreted, it was due him, after such animadversions as the letters from Louisiana contained, to give him a chance to state his position, and it is to be regretted that this could not have been afforded him in the issue of the paper immediately following that containing these letters. We trust that last week we made it sufficiently clear what our attitude is towards communications, and what our feeling is on this whole subject. We can only add that we trust that all will feel that both sides to this discussion have now been set forth with sufficient clearness and fulness.

The WEEKLY is making its regular June plans for covering the events of Commencement Week. It is necessary to remind Yale men who will take part in these events, whether they are officers of classes or not, that we expect from them coöperation in supplying us with facts. The field is a very large one to cover, and there is a very short time in which to cover it, and we have a very strong desire to make the record absolutely complete.

The Yale *News* is right when it says the Nine can play baseball yet. But there must be a quick response by players and coaches to the call to quarters. There must be a response too from the whole University—a response of confidence and encouragement.

## STUDY OF PHILOSOPHY.

[Continued from 1st page.]

the greatest of European psychologists and philosophers having expressed this either in their published writings, or more directly in a private way. In India his works have been widely circulated, while in Japan one of his books has been translated and another is at present in process of translation. The character and scope of Professor Ladd's writings can be spoken of in this place only in a most general way. His *Physiological Psychology*, published in 1887, was the first work on that subject in the English language; indeed, according to Wundt, it was at that time the only work on that subject, besides his own, in any language. To say nothing of his *Theological works*, the treatises on *Psychology* and *Philosophy* show a mastery of a field much wider in scope than is ordinarily found in any one writer. His latest publication has merited from an eminent Scotch critic the judgment that it is "the most complete and satisfactory work on epistemology in the language." The most advanced graduate courses are, very naturally, in charge of Prof. Ladd, and these are for the most part conducted on the seminar plan, the object being not to teach the tenets of any special school, but to inculcate a desire for the simple truth and to guide and stimulate to scientific methods of research. These courses sometimes

take the form of a careful and critical reading of some great philosophical masterpiece, sometimes the investigation of some special problem or problems by the various members of the class. Next year Hegel's *Phenomenology* will be read, and a seminar course given in the *Philosophy of Religion*.

Prof. George M. Duncan, after spending several years under the most able teachers in Germany and France, including such men as Wundt, Heinze, Zeller, Paulsen, Ribot and Janet, returned to Yale to devote most of his efforts to the work of instruction. His translation of selected portions of the writings of Leibnitz has proved to be very valuable, as have also some contributions to foreign magazines in the form of English bibliographies. His occasional magazine articles and reviews give promise and produce the hope of more elaborate works in the field of publication. Besides regular undergraduate instruction Prof. Duncan offers several graduate courses in *Advanced Psychology*, *History of Philosophy*, and special problems and discussions in *Philosophy*. Prof. Duncan never fails to impress his pupils as an earnest and conscientious student, a faithful and helpful teacher.

Prof. E. Hershey Sneath, formerly the personal assistant of President Porter and sometime Instructor in *Philosophy* at Wesleyan University, has devoted much of his time, aside from the work of teaching, to providing text-books suitable for making the average undergraduate acquainted with some of the chief philosophical masterpieces. To this end he has organized and edited the *Series of Modern Philosophers* (8 vols.) and also the *Ethical Series* (6 vols.) In this series from his own pen have come the "*Philosophy of Reid*" and the "*Ethics of Hobbes*." Besides offering certain courses in general introduction to *Philosophy*, Dr. Sneath also offers graduate courses, conducted after the combined seminar and lecture method, in *Philosophy of Mind*, *Philosophy and Literature*, and *Advanced Ethics*. The reputation of Dr. Sneath, due to his native pedagogical gifts, is that he is a clear, practical and attractive teacher.

The psychological laboratory is in charge of Dr. E. W. Scripture, who after an exceptional training in this branch of work under Wundt and others, came to Yale in '92, and it is to his unremitting labors that the work of the laboratory has been so successful. Besides editing the "*Studies*," Dr. Scripture has published two books, one for the Chataqua Society entitled "*Thinking, Feeling and Doing*" and one for the *Contemporary Science Series* entitled "*The New Psychology*." The laboratory, as we have already said, is excellently equipped for all sorts of experimental work from the most elementary to the most advanced.

The student who wishes to specialize in *Ancient Philosophy*, or the classical student who wishes to read the philosophers with special regard to their teachings as compared with modern

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views, will find opportunity in the courses offered by Dr. Stearns, recently returned from study with Zeller, Erdman and others; while the student who wishes to devote himself to the study of *Psychology* and *Philosophy* as applied to education will find opportunity in a course offered by Dr. Green.

A special advantage for the study of *Philosophy* at Yale is the close coöperation of some of the other departments. The student of *Evolution* may study that theory not only in its psychological and philosophical aspects, but also as a part of the same course, in its biological aspect under Prof. Williams of the Department of *Physical Science*. The course in *Hegel* to be given next year will be read in the original German under the instruction of Prof. Palmer of the *Modern Language Department*, as a preparation for the philosophical study of the author under Prof. Ladd.

The *Philosophical Club*, meeting bi-weekly during the greater part of the year, provides a common meeting place for students and professors, where papers are read and freely discussed, and where lectures are given by eminent scholars and writers from other universities. Many of the essays of these men, which have created wide-spread interest and discussion, were first presented before the *Yale Philosophical Club*, witness James' "*Will to Believe*" and several of Prof. Royce's essays. The value of philosophical study at Yale, moreover, is not a little enhanced by the variety of students which it gathers from all parts, and the consequent various points of view brought out in discussion.

From all this it is evident what progress Yale has made in this line of work in a very few years, and what advantages she offers for the most advanced work in this Department.

## To Ninety-Six.

All contributions to the *Alumni Fund* must reach the Class Agent on or before June fourteenth, if they are to appear in the annual report which is soon to be issued.