

HARVARD 'COMING FAST.'

Boston Opinion Places Her Ahead of Yale Now.

[Correspondence of YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY.]

Cambridge, October 18.—The progress of the Harvard Eleven during the week has been more rapid than at any previous time. To use an expression familiar to the college athlete, "the team is coming fast." Judging by the showing made in the games with Amherst and West Point, the Eleven is playing better football than the team of last season at this time, and this in spite of the fact that there are green men in a majority of the positions.

The opportunity offered to witness the games between Harvard and Amherst and Yale and the Newton Athletic Club during the week was taken advantage of by many Harvard men, and, while the weather conditions were very different on the two days, a comparison of the showing of the two Elevens was certainly in Harvard's favor. Harvard in the Amherst game made the large total of 53 points and suffered a safety touchdown, owing to a blocked kick. The team played with spirit, and the formations and interference of the backs was excellent. End plays were used against the light weight players on the opposing team for long gains, and it was by these plays that the score was pushed to so high a figure. But good gains were also made by bucking the line. Only once during the game was Harvard held for four downs, and Amherst made the necessary five yards on but few occasions. The most costly fault of the visitors was their wretched tackling, the Harvard backs shaking off their opponents with ridiculous ease. In spite of the weakness of the Amherst collegians, however, it was quite apparent that the home team was playing a strong game, particularly on the offensive. This improved showing was maintained in the game with West Point on Saturday, when Harvard won by the unexpected score of 28 to 0. Captain Dibblee put his strongest team into the field in the expectation of a hard-fought contest. His expectation was realized during the first half, but at the close of the game the lack of endurance of the Cadets enabled the visiting players to run up the total. Harvard's team played through the game with a well-sustained pace and finished the longest game it has played this year in excellent condition.

HARVARD SURPASSES YALE.

The most marked superiority of Harvard's game, as compared with that played by Yale against Newton, is in the more effective work of the men behind the line. The Harvard backs in the Amherst and West Point games were well together; the work of the Yale backs at Newton was ragged. The interference lacked the necessary swing to carry it around the ends, and the efforts at the line seemed to lack in force. In spite of the longer intervals of play, the score was less than in the game a year ago. Richardson at center and McGee and Richards at tackle were not able to prevent gains through their positions, and the Yale ends were not what they were expected to be, here. McBride's punting was excellent, and the spirit shown by the team did much to win the game against the superior weight of the Newton rush-line. A number of substitutes were played which kept the score down, and the wet ball made clean work difficult. But the general impression of those who witnessed the contest was that the team has not yet gotten together and that it has much hard work to do before the game with Harvard.

THE WEEK'S PRACTICE.

In the daily practice of Harvard for the past week, the most gain has been made by the men behind the line. Captain Dibblee is himself a good runner, an exceptional dodger, and skilful in interfering. The season is now reaching that stage when his work and instruction is beginning to tell in the improved showing of the other backs. Reid, Warren, and Kendall, as well as Daly, are showing up in the interference and both the former are running well with

the ball. Kendall may oust Warren permanently from a place behind the line. At present Gierasch is substitute for Captain Dibblee, Brayton for Reid, and Warren for Kendall. Warren is handicapped by a bad shoulder. Daly continues to play a strong game at quarter, but has fallen off in his kicking game. Against Amherst last Wednesday he showed slowness in getting punts away and fumbled disastrously when receiving punts. One of his block kicks cost Harvard her safety touchdown. On receiving the ball on the kick-off, he frequently returns it without attempting to rush it forward, when he has a clear field for a considerable advance.

The line has exhibited the most improvement in defensive play. No change has been made during the week in the center trio. Ellis, who has been played against Sargent at center, is being tried at tackle, leaving Kasson as first substitute center. Mills and Haughton have been tried in the tackle positions and both have started in well. This accretion of veteran material will force the new men, Lawrence and Burnett, to cut out a faster pace. Cochrane and Hallowell are putting up a steady game on the ends of the line, but their light weight will be against them in meeting heavy interference.

The coaches are congratulating themselves on the improved condition of the team. Thus far no serious injury has been sustained and the men are showing more endurance than usual. Trainer McMasters has been either very successful or very fortunate in his first few weeks at Harvard.

J. WESTON ALLEN.

Phi Beta Kappa Change.

At a meeting of Phi Beta Kappa held in the Society's rooms in White Hall, on Oct. 12, the following important amendments to the Constitution was adopted: Art. II, Section 1. "The Society shall elect as members those who shall attain a Philosophical Oration stand the first two or the last two years of the College course."

Previous to the entrance of the Ninety-Eight members into the Society a man was eligible if he attained a High Oration for the first two years in College, which meant an average mark of 3.15 for the first two years' work. Should he fail in this requirement, and at the end of the four years of his College course, if he should have raised his stand so as to average 3.15 for the entire four years, he was still eligible for election at graduation.

When Ninety-Eight assumed control, they raised the requirement as follows: Philosophical Oration, or an average mark of 3.30, required for the first two years, and in case of failure to attain this, an average stand of 3.30 for the entire four years' work would entitle a man to election at graduation.

The amendments adopted by Ninety-Nine are to take effect with the Class of 1900.

Messrs. Nichols, Spitzer, and Morey have been appointed to arrange the work of the Society for the present term, which is to consist of a limited number of first-class lectures and of the regular fortnightly meetings.

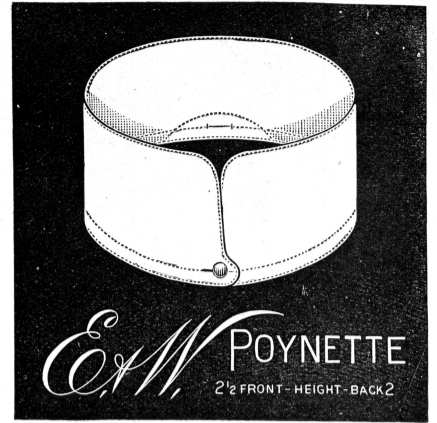
Yale Union Debate.

The Yale Union held its first debate of the year last Friday evening, October 14, at 7 o'clock. President J. K. Clark, '99, presided. The subject debated was: "Resolved, that the Faculty rule on digests is for the best interests of Yale scholarship." E. W. Ong, 1900, and H. A. Dow, 1900, were the speakers on the side of the affirmative, and L. D. Armstrong, '99, and E. B. Boise, '99, on the negative. There were also about twelve speeches delivered from the house, which were very good. The judges rendered their decision in favor of the affirmative.

University Club Elections.

At a meeting of the Board of Governors of the University Club, held on Oct. 10, the following men were elected to membership: From '99—T. F. Lawrence and E. O. Jones; from 1900—H. Taft, N. W. Bartlett, W. C. Mackey, R. D. Cary, T. B. Clarke, E. W. Ong, M. Mills, C. A. Starne, W. E. Lombardi, C. B. Spears, W. R. Clark, and R. A. Spalding, Jr.

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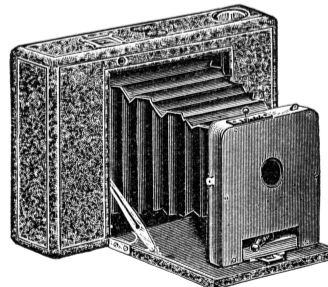
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