

YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

SUBSCRIPTION, - \$3.00 PER YEAR.

Foreign Postage, 40 cents per year.

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Single copies, ten cents each. For rates for papers in quantity, address the office. All orders for papers should be paid for in advance.

Checks, drafts and orders should be made payable to the Yale Alumni Weekly.

All correspondence should be addressed,—
Yale Alumni Weekly, New Haven, Conn.

The office is at Room 6, White Hall.

ADVISORY BOARD.

H. C. ROBINSON, '53.	J. R. SHEFFIELD, '87.
W. W. SKIDDY, '65 S.	J. A. HARTWELL, '89 S.
C. P. LINDSLEY, '75 S.	L. S. WELCH, '89.
W. CAMP, '80.	E. VAN INGEN, '91 S.
W. G. DAGGETT, '80.	P. JAY, '92.

EDITOR.

LEWIS S. WELCH, '89.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

WALTER CAMP, '80.

ASSISTANT EDITOR.

E. J. THOMPSON, Sp.

NEWS EDITOR.

FRED. M. DAVIES, '99.

ASSISTANT.

PRESTON KUMLER, 1900.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT ASSISTANTS.
O. M. CLARK, '98. BURNETT GOODWIN, '99 S.

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

NEW HAVEN, CONN., FEB. 1, 1899.

THE DATE OF PUBLICATION.

The WEEKLY will hereafter be dated Wednesday instead of Thursday. We do not like to change in the middle of the year, but as this is an improvement which we have accomplished earlier than we thought we could, it seems better not to wait in putting it through. As it was announced some time ago, we have found it possible to push forward the time of publication by twenty-four hours. We have finally pushed this on even more than a full day, so that the papers begin to go into the mails early Wednesday morning. As the paper is really out on Wednesday, we prefer to date it Wednesday rather than Thursday. This early time of publication is reached without sacrificing anything of the contents of the paper, and we trust the move is agreeable to the WEEKLY'S readers.

DEBATE'S OPPORTUNITY.

An article in this week's issue, from a man who has been very active and influential in the matters of which he writes, gives some plain facts about debating, which have rapidly developed of late and which seem to us of unusual interest. The article says, in a word (and the way in which it is stated is well worth the reading), that there is plenty of interest in debating and plenty of ability for it, but that in its organization it needs radical reformation; that the central debating power is moribund and the minor debating organizations are in great good health; that a strong central organization is absolutely necessary.

The situation then is encouraging to those who have a sense of leadership. There has not been such an opportunity in all the intellectual revival of Yale as is that offered to-day for the erection of a strong debating organization. The materials are all at hand.

We venture to suggest some things that would better not be done. Men who succeed in improving the present opportunity will not make membership in the Union, or whatever the organization may be, a cheap thing. Membership will not be a present, and enrollment will not be presented as a duty to men who have some ability. Invitations to a debating dinner will not be offered to any who will pay.

The smaller organizations have taught the parent society a simple lesson. They take the men they want,—men who are of some use in the society. They take as many as are useful for the society. They leave all others out, no matter how long the waiting list is; the longer the better. They consider the first duty of the society is to its members, to enable them to get something out of it. They don't consider the first duty of the society to be to those outside who may want to get in. They consider that the society will do best by Yale by making itself strong.

No organization in this world is of any good that invites all outside inside. That shows nothing inside. The strong secret societies flourish at Yale by following the instincts of human nature. They get together such men and so many of them as will, in coöperation, best carry out the ends for which the society was founded. If these ends are good Yale ends, then the society does its work well.

A society of twenty men, whose first interest is to make their organization a first-class debating society, will do more good to Yale than a Union of a thousand members as at present constituted. One of the first acts of this organization would be to establish such rules for its own perpetuation as only serious necessity could overturn. It would make mistakes; it would leave out some men who ought to be in, and would let in some men who ought to be out. But, if the right men started it with the right idea, it would, on the whole, do its work well. It would increase its membership, just so far as would be necessary to make it reach its maximum strength for its own members and so for the cause of debate at Yale.

After it had formed itself into a strong society and saw a good many people outside who wanted to come in, it would not go outside on its front steps and say to them: "You are good enough people to have some organization to get into, and we will help you to make one, since you can't come into ours." Its members would know that just so soon as there was force and strength enough outside, there would be another debating organization. The artificial planting of rivals is not a good thing.

There is one other thing which the successful founders of such an organization will avoid. The debating society, whatever it is, will be for the sake of debate and not to further anyone's political aspirations or any other organization's interests. When any sign of such influences appear, the germ will be burned out at any cost. In our opinion, the modern Yale generation will not be up to Yale standards if it cannot use the opportunities of the present to put debating on very strong foundations.

A COLLEGE AND ITS ALUMNI.

Mr. Talcott Williams, a well known Philadelphia alumnus of Amherst, in an address sometime ago before the Amherst alumni said:

"It has grown plain in many ways during the last five or ten years that the alumni of our colleges, taken as a whole, are not satisfied with their present share and influence in directing college policy. This is apparent most of all in an increase of the criticism of colleges, which is not confined to the press, and exists in the press first and chiefly because of the growing interest in the business of colleges.

"When this desire, plainly apparent at every alumni meeting and at every dinner like that which I am now addressing, to make of the relation to the college something more than a mere sentiment, seeks to become effective, the first difficulty in the way is the ignorance of the alumnus. The college

has here a duty which it does not discharge."

The criticism of the last sentence was perhaps especially intended for Amherst, but it applies well to other institutions. Yale has improved in this respect of late years and the more the relations between the government, if the term may be used, and the alumni have tended towards perfect frankness, the stronger has been the hold of the government. The traditions of the place have been mightily in favor of secretiveness. May these be more and more rapidly removed and annihilated. The more perfectly frank the relation of Yale to her alumni and, further, of Yale to the public, the better for Yale.

Phi Beta Kappa Constitution.

There will be a meeting of the graduate members of the Phi Beta Kappa Society in the society's room in the second entry of White Hall on Thursday evening, February 16, at 7.30 o'clock. Although the meeting will be largely of a social character, it is hoped that there will be an informal discussion on expansion from an economic, historical and political standpoint.

An important matter of society policy regarding the selection of undergraduate members will be brought up at the meeting. At the present time the undergraduate members have an amendment under consideration to change the chapter constitution in accordance with some suggestions given by the delegates at the Phi Beta Kappa Convention held at Saratoga last October. It is hoped that Judge Simeon E. Baldwin and Professor Perrin may have some suggestions to make on this point.

A cordial invitation is extended to all graduate members of the society, who may be in New Haven, whether members of the Yale chapter or of other chapters.

International Chess Match.

The chess clubs of Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Columbia sent a challenge, January 4, to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, England, for an Anglo-American intercollegiate chess match. The following letter has been received by the editor of the *American Chess Magazine* acknowledging the receipt of the challenge.

36 Wellington Square,

"Oxford, Jan. 13.

"Dear Sir:

"I have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your letter conveying a challenge from the Universities of Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton to Oxford and Cambridge Universities for a cable chess match. I shall have much pleasure in laying it before the Committee of the Oxford Chess Club at a special meeting as soon after the commencement of the term as possible, probably in ten days' time. I

NEW YORK LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY.

JOHN A. MCCALL, PRESIDENT.

This Company has been in successful operation since 1845, and has now over 300,000 policy-holders and over \$200,000,000 in assets. It offers the most privileges and on the most favorable terms, of any Company. Under its new system of classifying and compensating agents, it offers to young men continuous employment and a life income. Its policies and agents' contracts will interest all students.

NEW YORK LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY,
346 & 348 Broadway,
NEW YORK.

will also communicate with Cambridge on the subject, and will let you know what is decided immediately after a decision is arrived at. It will not be possible to do anything before the beginning of the term.

"Until then permit me to return on behalf of the Oxford University Chess Club, its cordial greetings to the Universities of Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton, and to remain,

"Yours sincerely,

"FREDERICK SODDY."

The editor of the *American Chess Magazine* has since received word from the President of the University of Cambridge Chess Club to the effect that the challenge would be accepted, although sufficient time has not elapsed to receive a formal reply which is expected some time this week. The latter part of March, has been suggested by the University of Cambridge as a suitable time to hold the match. The annual intercollegiate matches of the British universities are held in March and are usually under the auspices of the British Chess Club, which has controlled the matches between Great Britain and this country. The teams will probably be composed of six men. A formal reply from Oxford is also expected shortly.

Mrs. Baldwin's Gift.

Mrs. Nathan Baldwin has recently made a very beautiful and valuable gift to the Yale Art School in the form of a large Japanese Cloisonné vase, of the finest design and workmanship, measuring over seven feet in height.

The vase has just arrived from Japan, having been ordered some years ago and is said to be a facsimile of one of the finest examples of Cloisonné.

This beautiful gift, at some future time, will find a resting place in a suitable addition to the present Art School Building, where it is hoped there will be ample space for the display of the collections in every branch of Art. For the present it will form a fitting center in the room which is devoted to the famous Wells Williams collection of Chinese ceramics. But as many persons have expressed the desire to see the vase, it is now temporarily placed on public exhibition in the North gallery of the Art School, where it may be seen daily between two and five o'clock.

Oregon Association Prize.

Frank J. Sladen, 1902, has been awarded the prize annually offered by the Oregon Yale Alumni Association. The prize is ten dollars, and is given every year to the student who enters Yale from the State of Oregon with the highest record of scholarship.

Outing FOR February

offers a generous supply of exceedingly interesting text and artistic illustrations.

A NEW ENGLAND FOX HUNT, although innocent of red coats and through-breds is still a lasting pleasure to quite as keen sportsmen as ever donned scarlet.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE DOUBLE-HEELER. By Capt. A. J. Kenealy is just the subject to draw from that worthy old salt a fund of curious lore, past experience and shrewd conclusions that all yachtsmen will appreciate and enjoy.

The Modern Game of Skittles. The pleasant game introduced into "New Amsterdam" by the Dutch settlers has traveled far and wide and the article will be a welcome and practical one for persons interested in **BOWLING**.

When W. B. Leffingwell sets down to spin a yarn it is apt to be interesting. A practical man and a good writer he adds to his reputation by his description of his recent trip **SHOOTING ON THE GULF COAST**.

There are other articles on Winter Sport Shooting, Travel, Cycling, Yachting, Natural History, Fishing and Photography in this number, besides the regular monthly review of the more important **EVENTS IN THE ATHLETIC WORLD**.

Now on sale at all first-class newstands.

25 cents per copy. \$3.00 per year.

The Outing Publishing Co.,

239 FIFTH AVENUE. NEW YORK.

Yale Law School.

For circulars and other information apply to

Prof. FRANCIS WAYLAND,

Dean.