

## YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

SUBSCRIPTION, - \$3.00 PER YEAR.

Foreign Postage, 40 cents per year.

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

NEW HAVEN, CONN., MARCH 8, 1899.

## THE TEN EYCK SPEAKING.

The speakers in the Henry James Ten-Eyck prize competition (The old Junior Exhibition) were announced this week. We wish to congratulate them on the winning of the honor, and to make a suggestion to them and to those who have their training in hand. Let there be oratory at the Junior Exhibition; let there be a finished form of platform work; let there be either good gestures or no gestures; let there be ease; let there be sparks of fire where there are both flint and steel to strike them; let the pieces be pounded into shape for delivery to the audience, not for reading by the critic. We would earnestly urge all those who are in the competition to pay any cost, in the way of time and effort, to make their work, on the day of the speaking, a credit to themselves and to Yale.

There has been some good speaking in recent years, but more wretched speaking. The pieces have generally been good. Last year the average was exceedingly high. The average oratorical form last year was very unsatisfactory, to say the least. It is all nonsense to talk about the lack of interest in a good speech. Men will go anywhere to hear a good speaker and a good speech. But Yale has so wofully ignored training in platform service, that it has come to be expected that a Yale oratorical exhibition is exceedingly trying. It would take one first rate exhibition to get all the old interest back again.

## THE WORK OF THE NEWS.

Sketch of a Year Which Has Seen Many Changes.

The control of the Yale *News*, having passed from the Ninety-Nine board to that of Nineteen Hundred during the past week, a resumé of the work and purposes of the paper while under Ninety-Nine's directorship is in order.

At the suggestion of the board from the Class of Ninety-Eight, the present Senior board elected their officers as soon as the full quota of nine men had been taken on the paper; this occurred at the end of their Sophomore year, or in June of 1897. The object of choosing the Chairman and Business Manager thus early was to furnish assistants to the Senior officers and to prepare the new men for their coming

responsibilities. The experiment has proved eminently satisfactory and has been followed by the Nineteen Hundred board. This enables the incoming Chairman to thoroughly acquaint himself with all the details of management, and to get no little practice in editorial writing before he was actually shouldered with the whole responsibility of the paper. The Ninety-Nine board, therefore, felt in a measure more prepared for their duties, which fell to them about the middle of February of last year.

In so far as it was practicable the outline work of new candidates for positions was assigned to special men among the contributors, so as to lessen the mere machinery of hearing, and the Senior editors were given charge of departments, such as the athletic, the religious, debating, etc. This tended to give heelers more time for original articles and also reduced somewhat the numbers of hours of work each day.

## THE LIT. CRITICISM.

One of the first innovations introduced by the Ninety-Nine board was publishing a criticism of the LIT. each month. The author was not known to the outside world nor indeed to the LIT. board, notwithstanding the fact that they demanded to know him. After the first surprise had worn away the LIT. gracefully submitted to the reviews and they have been continued this year, but not without provoking a warning from "Yale's oldest periodical." The *News*, with the YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY, had charge of the Cruiser Fund project. Of the success of the venture, little need be said to readers of the WEEKLY. Only just now opinions are being called for from undergraduates and graduates as to what shall be done with the fifteen hundred dollar surplus which was left over from the money so generously contributed at that time by "all Yale."

In June the Ninety-Nine board published a "Boating Extra" directly after the boat race. It appeared on the streets of New London before any of the city papers, and indeed before the observation train had reached the New London station. Mention may also be here made of the Yale-Harvard Extra, published directly after the Harvard game last Fall; this was, however, an easy task, compared to getting out a special number away from New Haven.

## THE TIME OF PUBLICATION.

After careful deliberation the Ninety-Nine board decided, with the beginning of the present college year, to bring the paper out early in the morning and to have it delivered to subscribers instead of having it appear at the Coöperative store at twelve o'clock noon. This has necessitated more work on the part of the Board, but it has added to the value of the paper in giving it an equal chance with the New Haven and New York dailies as regards College news. This has made the *News* more independent, and has enabled her to be more generous in her attitude toward the many special correspondents and the Associated Press, with whom there has been a perfect understanding. Although done with many misgivings, the Ninety-Nine board have enlarged the paper so that it contains something over five hundred words more than formerly. It was debated whether good reading matter could be supplied for this space, but time has proved that the risk which the board assumed was warranted.

These are the main changes which the paper has undergone during the past year and the Ninety-Nine board feel that they will eventually work good, if they have not already done so. However, if a year's time proves them inexpedient the following board is at perfect liberty to resume former methods.

The board which is to take charge of the paper for the coming year is composed of the following nine men: Frederick B. Adams, Chairman; George N. Crouse, Business Manager; R. W. Chandler, Julian Day, E. B. Greene, Burns Henry, L. A. Hockstadter, Preston Kumler, and R. C. Twichell.

## The News Banquet.

The banquet of the *Yale Daily News*, the twenty-second in its history, was held last Friday, March 3, at the New Haven House. It brought together a very representative collection of Yale undergraduates with a few graduates.

The arrangements for the dinner were unusually thoroughly made and the evening went off with much spirit and enthusiasm. A quartet from the Yale Glee Club, composed of Messrs. Schneeloch, Dewey, Sheehan, and McGee, and a quintet from the Banjo Club composed of Messrs. Conway, Lewis, Loomis, Morgan and Clarke, showed a splendid endurance and good nature, so that the musical side of the dinner was very rich.

C. H. Conner, Jr., '99, was toastmaster for the dinner and with Mr. Day had made the arrangements for it. Mr. Day responded for the retiring Board. The substance of his remarks are given in his article on the *News* printed elsewhere. Mr. F. B. Adams, 1900, Chairman of the new Board, responded for the incoming administration in a speech very clearly setting forth a practical and strong policy. He referred to the innovation of assignments to the competitors, which would considerably lighten the burden of *News* competition, raising the quality and decreasing the quantity of work.

The toast to the YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY was responded to by Lewis S. Welch, '89. He expressed the value to the WEEKLY of its always close connection with the *News* and its debt to the *News* editors, who had first created it and who had always helped in developing it. He urged the *News* to stand always to its guns and to remember that in its keeping were the ideals of the Yale Campus.

Mr. Alexander Armstrong, Jr., of Princeton responded to the toast to the *Princetonian*, in a very graceful speech. He spoke of the admiration felt at Princeton for the way in which Yale supported her periodicals and hoped that more of that spirit would appear at Princeton. He was very enthusiastically received and a long cheer for Princeton was given at the close of his speech.

The last toast was "Yale Methods and the Yale Men." The speaker was Professor Hadley. He spoke of Yale's lack of form, but presence of strength, and expressed the belief that more form might be cultivated without any sacrifice of genuine strength. He paid a very strong tribute to Yale democracy and expressed the peculiar service of the periodicals, as forming a rallying point of the undergraduate sentiment, and so strengthening the community life, and so keeping all together in common work, where each did his part and where each was judged according to the way in which he did it. Professor Hadley was very enthusiastically received and was applauded to the echo as he sat down.

## Prof. Rod's Lecture.

Professor Edouard Rod, the Franco-Swiss novelist and critic, will lecture at the Art School March 18th, on the subject, "Last Days of Jean Jacques Rousseau." He visits America at the invitation of the "Cercle Francais" of Harvard and while here will lecture at Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Smith, Williams, Brown, Princeton, Cornell, Chicago University and Adelphi College.

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## Pensioning Professors.

Announcement has been made by the President and Fellows of Harvard College, that a system of retiring allowances for Professors has been established to go into effect September 1st, 1899. All who have served as professors or assistant professors for twenty years, and are over sixty years old, are eligible for one of these allowances. Such as have been retired for a time, will be allowed one-third of their last salary for twenty years of service, and one-sixth of their last salary for each additional year of service, provided that the retiring allowance shall in no case exceed two-thirds of their last salary. Harvard's funds, especially available for this purpose, have now reached \$340,000.

A slight inaccuracy has appeared in some reports in regard to this action by Harvard, it having been named as the first step of the kind to be taken by any college or university. At the Summer meeting of the Corporation of Yale in 1897, the decision was made to pension all professors who have served Yale twenty-five years consecutively, and who have reached the age of sixty-five years. They are allowed to retire on half pay. This was over two years ago; but even before that, in December, 1890, Columbia adopted the pension system on a liberal basis, providing the any professor who had been for fifteen successive years in the service of the University, who had reached the age of sixty-five, was entitled to retire, at his own request, on half pay.

R. D. Starbuck, 1900, was elected to be captain of the Cornell football team for next year, Feb. 18. This is the third election to the captaincy since the football season ended. Read, the first, resigned, and the choice of E. R. Sweetland did not meet with the approval of the Council.

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