

## YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

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## WHY SHOULDN'T YALE GET IT?

In almost every paper we take up nowadays is some news of President Harper's requests for money for the University of Chicago. Different journals report him as wanting very soon anywhere from one to nine millions of dollars. We will not take the trouble to look it up and see just how much he does want at this particular time, for what he does not want now he will be sure to request at an early date in the future.

Furthermore, what he asks for he will get, and we are glad that that statement can be made with reasonable confidence. But we beg to ask a question. If President Harper can, in his quiet and sufficient way, demand money in the millions every little while and not get discouraged, but, on the contrary, approach the opportunities of the future with increasing confidence, shall Yale's present appeal be considered a very serious tax on the Yale portion of the United States of America?

Yale has not for a long time asked for a sum of any size, as sums go nowadays. It was, of course, a fine thing for Yale graduates and undergraduates to put up a \$200,000 Gymnasium by themselves. That is a pretty small sum really. It was years before that when she last asked for any sum of size.

And here she is two hundred years old; has ten thousand children living, and tens of thousands more of warmest friends whom she has won by years of splendid service. And what she wants is only two million dollars. Just enough to do the necessary business with—to build a hall where the Yale family can all get together, where they can set up their household gods, now stored away in cellars or getting dusty on the shelves of the Library, and where, in the name of the University, great events of culture and civilization shall take place; and second, enough besides that to just keep the whole plant going in an even, sure way.

Of course, there are any number of things that Yale can use money for and surely will get it for, and they run on to large sums. But here is the least which she can get along with, and she asks it of her own. They cannot deny her, but it will not come unless every-one makes a sacrifice.

## A NEW ALUMNI PAPER.

No. 1 of Volume I. of the *Cornell Alumni News* is on our exchange table. We are not surprised to see another alumni paper brought to life by the loyal graduates of Cornell. We would pick them out as those who would be very desirous of having some connecting link all through their life with their University and with each other.

They have started out to have a good one. There is no question about that if one may judge from the contents of the first number. It is an eight-page paper, about the size of the ALUMNI WEEKLY and not unlike it in its make-up. The athletic news appears on the second page, and the alumni notes and obituaries on the third. The *Alumni News* has begun by publishing illustrations, the first number containing the portraits of Mario Garcia Menocal, Cornell, '88, now Chief-of-Police of Havana, and of four professors of the University.

The *Alumni News* decided at the outset that, being a paper for the alumni, it would better be published and edited by alumni. We think our Cornell contemporary is absolutely sound on this point and also on the point that it is wise to use as assistants, undergraduate journalists. Both of these lines of policy have been followed by the ALUMNI WEEKLY with satisfaction. It is intimated in the opening number that, if the *Alumni News* is successful, one of the undergraduate publications may unite its interests with the *Alumni News*.

The Editor of the paper is Clark S. Northup, '93, and the Managing Editor, as he is called, is Herbert B. Lee, Class of '99. The Assistants are drawn from the classes of '98 and '99. The paper is published under the auspices of a Board of Alumni Advisors, fourteen in number, graduates of classes from '72 to '97. There is an Executive Committee of three from this Board.

We beg leave to offer our best wishes to the *Cornell Alumni News*. If it continues as well as it begins, it is bound to be a success. If it is a success, it will help Cornell. Anything that advances the interests of Cornell, advances the interests of high American education.

Our very valuable contemporary, the *Cambridge (Eng.) Review*, is generally very accurate. We therefore feel a bit ungracious in calling its attention to the fact that it is not Yale, but Chicago University, that has a good friend willing to duplicate anything given to the University in a reasonable time, up to ten million dollars. Yale has a two-million problem on hand, but it is not as yet as cheerfully conditioned as this one of Chicago.

## CORPORATION CANDIDATES.

Those Already Named—Mr. Dimock and Cornell University.

The daily increasing interest in the elections for the Corporation has resulted in an early and very keen study of the names of those who have been proposed for the vacancies. It seems to be a general feeling that membership in the Corporation in the near future will require even a higher standard of ability than before.

The problems that will crowd upon Yale with the very inception of the new administration will be so many sided and so serious, that only the best minds and the closest study of the University's needs can properly pass upon them, even after they have come through the

Faculty and President. These questions will cut very deeply into all sides of Yale's life, and the question of her material welfare, of however great importance, will be secondary to other matters involving the very life and real character of the place. Those who have read the papers on the "The Next Administration" can realize to some extent how trying and how far-reaching these problems will be. The issues involved are so great and so far beyond personal considerations, that the WEEKLY is inclined to be very free in admitting a discussion of these matters in our columns.

The candidates who have been directly or indirectly brought before the readers of this paper are these:

H. F. Dimock, Yale, '63, N. Y. City.  
Eli Whitney, Yale '69, New Haven.  
A. L. Ripley, Yale '78, Boston.  
W. H. Taft, Yale, '78, Cincinnati.

N. G. Osborn, Yale '80, New Haven.

It looks now as if there would be other nominees including Professor William H. Welch, Yale '70, of Johns Hopkins University.

As soon after May first as it is practicable, the names of those who have received twenty-five votes and who have withdrawn their names will be announced by circular to the graduates. The ballots will be received by the Secretary of the University, Mr. Dexter, and can be sent by mail or can be deposited in person in New Haven at a certain time of Commencement week. The announcement is generally made at the Commencement dinner.

An alleged fact has been constantly referred to in connection with Mr. Dimock's candidacy, to wit: that he was a Trustee of Cornell University and for that reason, was considered by a great many people ineligible to the Yale Corporation. The facts in the case are, that Mr. Dimock declined a suggestion that he be elected, and that in spite of this he was chosen to a trusteeship. He nevertheless held to his stand that he was unwilling to accept, and formally declined it. A friend of Mr. Dimock informs the WEEKLY that he took this stand because he was unwilling to hold a position in any other University than Yale.

## ALUMNI IDEALS.

More Suggestions about the Presidency from Graduates.

## A SCHOLARLY ADMINISTRATOR.

There has been a canvass of sentiment in Cleveland by two or three Yale alumni, who give this expression of opinion:

"If we limit ourselves to two words of description, the phrase would be 'A Scholarly Administrator.' Perhaps this sounds like the impossibility so often suggested at such times. It means to us that a man at the head of Yale must, first of all, be a man of affairs, capable of managing men, a senate or legislature; but that it is of equal necessity that he be a scholar (not a clergyman, by any means), but of such attainments as to have the country recognize the choice as that of a scholar.

"If you had not suggested the avoidance of personalities, I could have given no more appropriate name than Professor Blank. His age would make this an inspiring appointment.

"We have grown strong in poverty and are a little inclined to fear the infusion of too much worship of gold."

## MUST BE IN COLLEGE WORK.

A lawyer, and a man of much public service, has laid special stress on the importance of previous connection with college or university work:

"Assuming the possession of all the usual qualities of an able man,—dignity, sincerity, straightforwardness, impartiality, firmness and sympathy,—the new President of Yale should have two leading qualifications: first, fine scholarship; second, fine executive ability. In addition, the work of a University President is so far differentiated from other work as, in my judgment, to make it necessary that he should be one whose previous life has been connected with a college or university. I do not think it possible for any man who has followed other pursuits till middle life to turn to the conduct and direction of a great university with full success. Ex-

ecutive ability, tact in dealing with men,—associates and students,—a firm hold on public attention, each of these counts for much; but there is nothing that can fully take the place of an intimate practical knowledge of university life. This cannot be gained except by long experience, which there is no time to gain except at great loss after one has undertaken such duties.

"Therefore, I think the wise choice of the next Yale President is limited to those who have already become practically familiar with university life. It is the same rule as should be applied in selecting the head of a great court,—he must first of all be a lawyer.

"This does not make it necessary, or strictly essential, that the choice here should be of one who is a Yale graduate, though other things being nearly equal I think a Yale graduate, for some pretty obvious reasons, should be preferred,—a rule, however, to which I admit there might be exceptions. For example, if Professor George P. Fisher were to-day otherwise eligible to the Presidency, the fact that he is not a graduate of Yale would not weigh with me in determining my choice.

"To my mind, the finest combination of these three desiderata,—a man of university life, a man of high scholarship, and a man of large executive ability,—is the man on whom the choice should fall. To my mind, too, these qualifications may be safely named as the *irreducible minimum*.

"It would not be difficult for me to name such a man if it were desirable to do so, but any man anywhere possessing these qualifications would make a President who would carry forward the great work which Yale ought to do in the next twenty-five years.

"I wish to add that I think it most desirable that the coming President should not be over forty-five years of age.

## HERE'S A LARGE IDEAL.

A Massachusetts graduate of about fifteen years standing has built a president on strong, broad lines:

"I suppose my opinion is that of the body of alumni. The trouble comes in estimating a candidate so truly that the theory is not left unrealized in the man selected. The office must find in the man great reserves of power in multi-form directions. Otherwise, we must meet the disappointments so frequent in the selections of heads of schools of learning.

"And at best, our new President will be an experiment until tested by time. This position calls for an administrator. It demands therefore a just man, an approachable man, an even-tempered man, a man with a good digestion and one who knows how to keep his blood fresh with a fair mixture of out-of-doors with indoors.

"The position demands an executor. It calls, therefore, for a man who knows affairs and men. He must have positive convictions and his own mind. He must be a man of method—an organizer—and must be able to choose specifically competent lieutenants and must forego the pleasure of doing everything himself. This ability not to expend energy on details seems to me of supreme consequence, and it is the mark and crown of successful conduct of great affairs.

A very well known New Haven man constructs this ideal:

"My ideal President of Yale is a man of commanding presence, a fluent speaker and natural leader of men. He must have attained eminence in some one branch of learning, but, at the same time, must be a man of broad culture, also a man of affairs with marked organizing and executive ability. Though firm and decided, he must have affable manners and be easily approachable. He must be a good judge of men.

"Of the above-mentioned qualities, I consider executive force, ability to judge men, broad culture, affable manners and readiness in public speaking as absolutely essential."

## Yale Law School.

For circulars and other information apply to

Prof. FRANCIS WAYLAND,

Dean.