

COMMENTS ON PRES. HADLEY.

[Continued from 404th page.]

him graduated and in which he had taught many years. It would be difficult to find a man more completely the son of an institution than President Hadley is a son of Yale. It is not often that a member of a faculty is the choice of the trustees for the presidency, but in this instance it seems to have been the unanimous and hearty choice of the trustees, of the Faculty, of the alumni, and of the undergraduates. All this results from no special sentiment, but from a general conviction that he is eminently fit for the place.

More than a Scholar.

[Railroad Gazette.]

The new President of Yale University has written a book on railroads which is a classic. Few men have stated so many essential facts in so few words and yet so clearly as has President Hadley in his "Railroad Transportation." * * * He is a scholar, but he is a good deal more than a scholar. He has the constructive temperament, and he comes to his new work at an age when that temperament is still strong and active. Criticism and repression are to him merely incidental—not the real end of human effort. His temperament would lead him to stimulate and use the forces around him. This is illustrated by a few words quoted recently from a magazine article which he wrote five years ago, speaking of the place of athletics in college: "If there is danger of distorting the sense of proportion among the students it is to be remedied not by less encouragement to athletics, but by more encouragement to study."

Called Conservative.

[New York Tribune.]

It is said, not unnaturally but rather carelessly, that Professor Hadley's election marks a wide departure from the old order of things. In reality it is essentially conservative. The new President was born and reared in the atmosphere of Yale. No one of its graduates has ever been more completely identified with the University by inheritance, sympathy and association. He is the embodiment of its traditions, its teachings and its living spirit. In a sense, every change of administration is experimental, and this succession to a great post in the educational world must inevitably be regarded with an interest not wholly free from anxiety. But Professor Hadley has an ample title to the confidence of those to whom the welfare and the honor of Yale are most dear. The University will be expected to make great and perhaps rapid progress under his supervision, but the development will be along established lines, and the continuity of purposes and, in the main, of processes, will be preserved.

Fills the Measure.

[E. S. Martin in Harper's Weekly.]

The elevation of Professor Hadley to the Presidency of Yale seems to meet with general approval. We all like to see such a prize in the teaching profession go to a professional teacher. Besides that, no other candidate was talked about in public whose qualifications seem quite as comprehensive as those of Professor Hadley. He is a Yale professor, the son of a Yale professor, born in New Haven, in a blue house—Yale of Yale, bred in the bone, and blown in the glass. There couldn't be a Yaler man, as every person will admit who ever sorrowed over the elder Hadley's Greek grammar. He is forty-three years old—a very proper age. He has written a book about railroad law, which enables him to qualify as enough of a business man to be a college President. He has served with credit as a labor commissioner in Connecticut, so he must know something about the conditions of life outside of the Yale Campus. He is liked and esteemed in the University and out of it, and is very generally credited with possessing a mind of the requisite fibre to enable him to fill a distinguished place with distinction.

The Position of the College President.

[Boston Transcript.]

The place of a successful college president, however, can be no sinecure. Hardly a position can be imagined in which more manly tact and broad diplomacy are required. There are various interests, some of them at times conflicting, to be reckoned with and adjusted. There is the Faculty to begin with. That should be composed, without exception, of men, or women, who are not only learned but reasonable; but it is not always. College professors have their foibles and their faults, and they are frequently capable of generating friction and creating divisions. These have to be prevented or reconciled. Then comes the great student body which requires even more skilful handling than the instructors. Next are the trustees, who are usually men with well defined and tenacious opinions, and last the alumni, who assume that they have at least the right to find fault with everything occurring at their alma mater, for which they cannot see a reason.

It is hardly more difficult for the President of the United States to steer his course successfully through the coördinate branches of government than for the college president to keep such a guiding hand upon all the movements of his institution that clashing and collision shall be avoided. His diplomacy must even lead to financial results of greater or less importance, else he will be accused of weakness in a leading point. Whether the new men of the present year can meet all these demands upon them remains to be seen, but the prospect is certainly hopeful.

University and Nation.

[Marrison Wilcox in Harper's Weekly.]

At no other time in the century of our national history or in the two centuries of Yale's history has there been a more imperative demand for a full recognition of the vital connection which exists between university and nation; for it is now plainly the duty of those in authority at our institutions of learning to realize that, quite beyond the local questions of university government and (for example) Bi-centennial financial schemes, or the relations which the university sustains to the City of New Haven and the State of Connecticut, is the question of questions, which is the problem of the United States, with all its cities and all its new possessions: What is the meaning of the new expansive force in our national life, and which way lies the right?—not "which way lies the game?" * * *

At this critical moment Yale has chosen as her President a man whose unquestioned intellectual power is not of the narrowly academic order, whose studies in history and political science have given him breadth of view and independence of judgment, and whose methods of instruction are designed to cultivate the same qualities in his students—to stimulate original research on their part, in the belief that this is the only road to opinions which may be used as well as held. Among his friends who have known much of his life, which has included some difficult conquests together with many brilliant and apparently easy successes, Mr. Hadley is frankly admired as a man of high courage, as well as high character; to his friends, then, to the undergraduates, and to recent graduates who came under his instruction during the college course, his selection as Yale's chief executive when the importance of that office has become most important, seems especially fortunate; and it is safe to say that the whole body of graduates will join in congratulating both the University and its new leader upon the present splendid opportunity.

Mr. Chamberlain's View.

[From a letter to the Springfield Republican by Ex-Gov. Daniel H. Chamberlain, '62.]

Permit me, . . . to express my strong sense of the praise and honor we owe to the clerical members of the present Yale Corporation in this matter of the choice of a new President. Esprit de corps is so strong with men generally, there was so much that might be plausibly urged in favor of the policy of "letting well enough

alone," so much, too, to be said in favor of the legal right, and even the legal duty, to choose a clergyman, that I for one feel unbounded respect in this case, for men who put aside, as I must imagine the clerical members of the Corporation did here, all thought or consideration, except what was best now, in 1899 and for the coming quarter-century, for our beloved and great university. If I have felt and spoken censure of these men on other occasions and in other regards, I am the more ready and happy to speak now in grateful praise.

I have chosen of late to be a perfectly free critic of Yale, trying to look at her and her Faculty and Corporation objectively. For this a full quiver of shafts have been sent at me by those especially who profess to think—I doubt if they really do think so, if they even stop to think about it—that one ought not to publicly assail or freely criticize one's alma mater. For myself I spurn such counsel, and I repudiate such a rule. The only question in any given case is: Are the censures or criticisms just and well-founded? If they are, and if the censurable conduct or policy is persisted in, it is the duty of the loyal son and graduate to resort to public censure, to "cry aloud, spare not, lift up his voice like a trumpet," in criticism, censure, rebuke and denunciation. Whenever I hear, as I have heard more than once, that public criticisms are ill received at Yale, and will result only in postponing desired and needed reforms there, my indignation is redoubled and I ask what standard of duty or of fiduciary fidelity have those who say this or who act from such motives, and I am apt to query: Is the servant above his master? Plain speaking is as safe, as useful, as imperative a rule and practice as I have ever learned.

Providence University Club.

The University Club of Providence has been formally organized, and the following officers were elected: President, Stephen O. Edwards; Vice-President, Gov. Elisha Dyer; Secretary, S. Minot Pitman; Treasurer, Henry T. Grant, Jr.; Board of Governors, Col.

R. H. I. Goddard, Prof. E. B. Delabarre, Lorin M. Cook, Walter R. Callender, '94, Walter L. Munroe, John P. Farnsworth, James B. Sullivan, Henry B. Gardner, Frank K. Potter, Edward G. Buckland, '89 L.S., George H. Webb and Frank L. Day.

The Illustrations.

Several of the half-tones in illustration of the London games are, as indicated in the lines under the plates, from the great collection of illustrations made by the British Mutoscope and Biograph Company Ltd., which is the English connection of the American Mutoscope and Biograph Company. The Company very courteously allowed the correspondent of the WEEKLY to select several of the views. These moving pictures, taken by this company, form a permanent record of the contest and will be shown in the biograph the coming season in the theaters in all parts of America.

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