

The University and Affairs.

At a recent meeting of the Nineteenth Century Club of New York, Professor Woodrow Wilson of Princeton discussed "The Relation of the University to Affairs." He is reported by the New York Sun as speaking in part as follows:

"The university proper should not be so practical but that it can see the errors of practice in society. It is not its province to practice the arts, but to discern the principles upon which they are founded. I should say that an important function of the university is to encourage unpopular thinking; to encourage a man to say what he believes, even though he knows it will not be well received. Unpopular views, however, are not necessarily correct views, as we have seen lately in the expressions of certain gentlemen on national topics. In respect to political matters it is the place of the university to accept facts as they stand and, making the best of them, strive to point out what the future will bring instead of standing aside and saying to the nation: 'You have made a great mistake.' The university's province is not leadership, but the illumination of practical affairs: to show whither conditions are leading us. We need courage in predicting difficulties, but not hopeless regrets in deploring mistakes. Some men, by the way, enter the university world because they haven't red enough blood in their veins to work out tasks in the activities of the outer world.

"I believe in football in our universities. It is an excellent way to bring out the fighting stuff in men. We don't expect all our college men to be studious, and football, with its devotion of self to the best interests of the team, and its discipline to temper, is invaluable in giving an outlet for the energies of the non-studious element. The football player must exercise self-control and use his strength to a worthy purpose, just as a soldier must. Whether or not we need soldiers to fight, we need men with soldierly qualities. I have seen men who couldn't be trained in any other way, well trained on the gridiron and taught valuable lessons.

"The university can supply the nation—I don't say that it does, but it can—with seasoned convictions. We stand to-day upon quicksands of taste. When I see some of the books that go to 200,000 copies, I wonder when we shall all be swallowed up. From the university should come a corrective to this sort of thing. We should have from the university the critical temper; not revolutionary and destructive, but critical. It stands for the foundations of society, instead of seeking to destroy them, and so says to all: 'Here are the established principles of the race. Challenge them if you dare, for we are the champions who will rise against you.'"

Leonard Bacon Club.

The Leonard Bacon Club of the Divinity School has made arrangements for the course of lectures given annually in Marquand Chapel by various distinguished clergymen and teachers. As far as now completed, the following have consented to deliver lectures in the series: Rev. S. D. McConnell, Rector of Holy Trinity Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., Monday, December 11th; Rev. Henry VanDyke, about December 27th; Rev. H. G. Stimson of Manhattan Congregational Church, New York, Tuesday, January 23d; Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago, Wednesday, February 28th.

The possibilities are that Dr. Washington Gladden of Columbus, O., and Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, will also lecture.

Course in Spanish.

An optional course in Spanish was organized on Wednesday, November 29, by Mr. W. H. Bishop, instructor in French and Spanish in the University. The course will be open to men of all departments of the University, who may attend the recitations on Monday and Friday afternoons.

An Historical Landmark.

The Historic Landmarks Committee of the Connecticut Society of Colonial Dames intend to place a memorial at Branford, Conn., to the ten clerical founders and trustees of Yale College who met there in the year 1700.

The original frame house where the clergyman met was torn down a long time ago, and a large modern residence now stands upon the site. For this reason no memorial can be placed upon the exact location where the meeting was held, but it will probably be erected as near the place as possible. The nature of the memorial to be built has not yet been determined. The memorial will be placed some time in 1900, thus marking the two hundredth year since the meeting at Branford took place.

Closing Football Games.

Below are printed the closing scores of the season in the matches between the different colleges and schools:

Thanksgiving day—At New York, Carlisle Indians 45, Columbia 0; At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 29, Cornell 0; At Chicago, Wisconsin 17, Michigan 5; At Chicago, Chicago 17, Brown 6; At Richmond, University of Virginia 10, Lehigh 0; At Boston, Boston College 17, Holy Cross 0.

At Franklin field, Philadelphia, the West Point Military Academy defeated the Annapolis Naval Academy eleven by the score of 17 to 5.

For Uniform Examination.

The thirteenth annual convention of the Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the Middle States and Maryland was held at Trenton, N. J., Friday and Saturday, December 1 and 2.

Among the other proceedings, a plan was discussed whereby uniform entrance examinations might be secured for all the colleges in the Middle States and Maryland.

Professor Butler of Columbia University read a paper in which he advocated strongly the adoption by colleges, of uniform entrance requirements, with a common board of examiners. This board, according to Professor Butler's plan, would consist of one representative from each college and five from the preparatory schools of the middle states and Maryland, to be chosen annually, and to have charge of the entrance examinations to all the colleges represented.

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Berkeley Association.

The first sermon in the course given annually under the auspices of the Berkeley Association of Yale University, was delivered by Rev. W. S. Rainsford, D.D., of St. George's Church, New York City, on Sunday evening, December 3, in Trinity Church.

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A BIT OF HISTORY.

[From Woodward's "Insurance in Connecticut."]

The Aetna escaped the fire of December 16th, 1835, in New York City—the first in the series of great American conflagrations—which destroyed property to the value of \$15,000,000, and bankrupted twenty-three out of twenty-six local insurance companies. It entered the city the following year, having for agent Augustus G. Hazard, afterwards the organizer and president of the Hazard Powder Company of Enfield. It was not so fortunate in the fire of 1845, which swept \$6,000,000 of property from the business center of the metropolis, and cost the Aetna \$145,000. When the news reached Hartford, Mr. Brace called together the directors and told them that the calamity would probably exhaust the entire resources of the company. Going to the fire-proof vault, he took out and laid on the table the stocks and bonds representing its investments. Little was said, each member waiting for some one else to take the initiative. At length the silence was broken by the question: "Mr. Brace, what will you do?"

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