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NEW HAVEN, CONN., JAN. 3, 1900.

BLUNDERING ABOUT GIFTS TO
YALE.

It is a new affliction which has been visited upon Yale,—this crediting the University with gifts of enormous value when none have been made. Of course, the report that the Misses Stokes of New York have given gifts variously stated at from half to three-quarters of a million, will go to a thousand different places which Mr. Stokes' denial of that report will never reach. Yale will seem rich to overflowing and many a purse will be closed. The Associated Press reports sent out from here were correct. The papers which made the worst blunders printed the correction considerably in a few lines of fine type in an obscure corner.

If any Yale man has been deceived, let him now know that no such gift has come to Yale. Instead of \$750,000 for the full group of buildings, the very generous gift of the Misses Stokes of New York was the sum of approximately \$40,000 for a single Administration building, on which it would be difficult to spend more money than that.

There has not been, according to any reliable information that the WEEKLY can secure, any considerable additions to Bi-centennial funds since the last statement was made months ago. Most of the money is yet to be secured.

Price of the New York Dinner.

To the Editor of YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY:

Sir:—I beg leave to take up a few moments of your time by a communication which I am led to direct to you in view of the recent "New York Yale Dinner," given in this city.

I wish to say at the outset that it is not my intention in any way to criticize any person or persons connected with the management of the dinner. But I wish to call attention to what seems to me a very serious mistake in policy in charging the price of \$6.00 per plate. The announcement of the dinner sent out to the graduates contains this statement: "The price of tickets, covering wines and cigars, is \$6.00." Of course the price named, when it includes "wines and cigars," is not at all unreasonable, but that a price should be set which must necessarily include wines, seems to me a considerable hardship upon those men who do not indulge in wine.

I am not questioning the advisability of using, or of abstaining from the use of wine, but the fact remains that there is a large number of men, and I think I may safely say, the majority of men, who do not drink wine. It therefore seems a hardship that such men should be forced to choose between either paying for wine which others drink, or else staying away from their Yale dinner entirely.

I say their dinner because it is their dinner; it is a dinner, the object of which is to gather together once a year just as many alumni of the University, resident in and about New York, as can possibly come. These gatherings of alumni are universally acknowledged to be the occasions upon which loyalty to the University is fostered and her sphere of influence enlarged. The older graduates, whose enthusiasm may have become somewhat dulled through the distraction of years and labor, are made to feel that enthusiasm anew and their pride in the University is strengthened, and more men are thus induced to choose Yale as their alma mater. That these alumni gatherings are of great importance to the University is conceded, I am sure, by every interested person, and the faculty certainly recognize it by sending their best men to represent them at the alumni gatherings all over the United States, wherever they are held. The principal alumni gathering is undoubtedly the one held here in New York, and it should be made to include just as large a number of men as can possibly be gathered together. If a man who does not care to use wine and whose circumstances compel him to be careful in small expenditures, finds that the price of the dinner, when set at \$6.00, necessitates his paying for the wines used by other men, he will, and I know instances where he has, declined to attend. Undoubtedly fifty per cent. of that charge was made to cover wines, and without wine, the tickets could have been set at \$3.00.

The Quill Club, of this city, has a dinner once a year at Sherry's, and it is in every respect, with the exception of wine, a dinner of as high a standard as the Yale Dinner. The price charged in that instance is \$3.00 per plate.

I submit that it would tend much more to a successful alumni gathering in this city, if the price charged were without wine and if those who desire wine are allowed, as they easily could, to order it in any quantity as an extra. I am sure by this means the alumni gathering would be larger, and I understand that a large gathering is always preferable to a small one, not only for the fostering of our pride in the college, but also for furthering our acquaintance with each other.

Very truly yours,

ELBERT B. HAMLIN.

New York, Dec. 18, 1899.

Essex County Alumni.

The annual meeting of the Yale Alumni Association of Essex County (New Jersey) was held at Davis's Restaurant, Music Hall Building, Orange, on Friday, Dec. 15th. In the absence of the President, Emile Schultze, '85, who was unable to be present on account of the recent death of his father, George E. Coney, '76, acted as presiding officer.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Richard M. Colgate, '77; Members of Executive Committee, Charles A. Mead, '84, and Sanford E. Cobb, '87; Nominating Committee, Emile Schultze, '85, Frederick Seymour, '81, Frederick R. Lehlbach, '97.

The President-elect, Mr. Colgate, was unable to be present, being confined to his house by sickness. On being notified of his election he responded through the medium of the telephone.

At the close of the business meeting supper was served, after which Edward D. Duffield, Princeton '92, of South Orange, N. J., responded to the toast "Princeton." He spoke feelingly of the debt of gratitude Princeton owes and always will owe to Yale and paid a warm tribute to Yale athletics. Certain yellow journals, that have of late been casting reflections upon Yale, were mentioned in language good and true. Princeton, said Mr. Duffield, has taken Yale as a model in athletics for twenty-four years past and is proud of the fact. All true Princeton men took great pleasure in watching the football game at

New Haven, even when it appeared that Yale had won. Mr. Duffield closed by saying, "Yale men need never be ashamed of the defeat. It was a beautiful exhibition of gentlemanly sport. I say with all sincerity that it is a pleasure to watch such a contest from beginning to end." "I must say something about the good, old Yale spirit. Princeton is better as a result of it and it must be our constant endeavor to inculcate that Yale spirit at Princeton." "Really I can not close without mentioning the fact that Yale has always stood by Princeton. We have had our troubles in the past, but Yale has always been a strong, true friend, and we love Yale for it."

At the close of Mr. Duffield's remarks, which were enthusiastically received and at times interrupted by applause, a Princeton cheer was heartily given.

Addresses were also made by Malcolm MacLear, Yale '91; Charles E. Eaton, Yale '84; Sanford E. Cobb, Yale '87, and Sidney M. Colgate, Yale '85.

Conference of Universities.

The Presidents of Harvard University, Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Chicago, and the University of California have issued an invitation to sister institutions to a conference to be held in Washington some time in February 1900, for the consideration of problems connected with Graduate work. The following paragraphs are taken from the invitation:

"We beg to suggest that the time has arrived when the leading American universities may properly consider the means of representing to foreign universities the importance of revising their regulations governing the admission of American students to the examinations for the higher degrees.

"This invitation is prompted by a desire to secure in foreign universities, where it is not already given, such credit as is legitimately due to the advanced work done in our own universities of high standing, and to protect the dignity of our Doctor's degrees. It seems to us, for instance, that European universities should be discouraged from conferring the degree of Doctor of Philosophy on American students who are not prepared to take the degree from our own best universities, and from granting degrees to Americans on lower terms than to their native students.

"There is reason to believe that among other things the deliberations of such a conference as has been proposed will (1) result in a greater uniformity of the conditions under which students may become candidates for higher degrees in different American universities, thereby solving the question of migration, which has become an important issue with the Federation of Graduate Clubs; (2) raise the opinion entertained abroad of our own Doctor's degree; (3) raise the standard of our own weaker institutions.

"This invitation is extended to the University of California, the University of Chicago, Clark University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Leland Stanford Junior University, University of Wisconsin, and Yale University. The United States Commissioner of Education has been invited to take part in the conference. The Federation of Graduate Clubs has likewise been invited to send a delegate."

A Collectivism of Spirit Needed.

[From President Hadley's address as President of the American Economic Association at its session at Ithaca last month.]

If it were true that each man's mental horizon were bounded by his class interests, this would simply mean that we were fundamentally unfit for the task that is before us. It would mean that the trusts which were placed in the hands of our citizens by the new conditions of business and of politics, were of a kind which we could not fulfil. It would indicate that the largeness of our problems ruin us morally and politically, as Rome was ruined by her imperial problems two thousand years ago. But I have faith to believe that this is not the fate marked out for us to-day. I believe that the American people and the modern

civilized world in general will solve these problems, as they have solved other problems which have come up in the successive phases of their history; that we shall meet the new collective needs of industry and government with a true collectivism of spirit and purpose. Not with that superficial collectivism or socialism which, like the individual that it strives to supersede, often makes too much of mere political machinery, and believes that men are to be saved by their institutions rather than their characters; but with a public spirit which demands, as a part of the national ethics, that men shall shape their course on the basis of conviction rather than of compromise, and that public discussion shall look toward a common understanding rather than a bargain. Because the political and commercial methods of the past have led to compromise rather than conviction, or because the successful man of affairs must be made to compromise where he fails to convince, let us not say that all politics and all commerce is but a tissue of compromises, and that a political or commercial science which pretends to be something broader and better than this, is an illusion. Let us as economists take the opportunity that lies before us, in the face of new conditions for whose treatment the old methods are proving themselves inadequate. Let us employ our understanding with regard to public needs as a means of evoking public spirit. Let us use whatever special knowledge we have with all the breadth of purpose which it is in our power to attain, and make ourselves, as becomes men of science, representatives of nothing less than the whole truth.

A Choice Field Souvenir.

The Eugene Field Monument Committee took a very happy way for acknowledging contributions to the Fund, which is to be divided between the family of Mr. Field and the Monument, by issuing a book called Field Flowers. It is an illustrated souvenir of Field, if the term may be used. Some of his choicest verses have been brought together here and illustrated, by not less than fifteen different artists, who made this a work of love. Those who have drawn for it are: R. M. Hynes, Reginald B. Birch, W. L. Taylor, George Wharton Edwards, Frederic Remington, Carl Werntz, R. W. Taylor, Frank O. Small, Henry Sandham, C. J. Taylor, W. Granville Smith, Irving R. Wiles, A. B. Wenzell, Mary Hallock Foote, Alice Barber Stephens, J. T. McCutcheon, Eric Pape, F. Hopkinson Smith, E. W. Kemble, A. B. Frost, W. A. Rogers, Abby E. Underwood, Harry Fenn, W. H. Drake, Charles C. Curran, Charles Mente, Charles Graham, William Schmedtgen. Some of the poems chosen were "The Dream-Ship," "Little Mistress Sans-Merci," "Over the Hills and Far Away," "Jes' 'Fore Christmas," "The Rock-a-by Lady." The last piece is a reproduction of the manuscript of "Little Boy Blue," illustrated with the little toy dog and the little toy soldier. The book is cloth bound, eight by eleven, and a very pretty thing to keep or give away. It is given in acknowledgment of contributions to the Fund, and also sold at any book store or by the Monument Fund Committee, A. L. Swift, Secretary, 180 Monroe Street, Chicago.

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