

YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

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NEW HAVEN, CONN., FEB. 21, 1900.

HENRY C. ROBINSON.

Of all the older Yale men one could hardly be selected whose death meant a personal loss to so many, both young and old, as does the death of the Hon. Henry C. Robinson of Hartford. It was not because of his public positions and public appearances, although the former were many and honorable, and although the latter won hearts as well as applause. Mr. Robinson is missed and mourned in the Yale family because he was such a good friend to so many—and particularly to so many young men. It was often a wonder to those of us who were given from time to time evidence of his thoughtful friendliness, that our affairs and hopes were a matter of concern to one whose mind and heart were so crowded with great interests and close intimacies.

It need hardly be said that, as Senior member of the Advisory Board of this paper, he was always ready to give its plans and its problems his interested thought. How much of a difference his presence made at Yale meetings at Hartford and Yale meetings in other places; and indeed everywhere. How interested he was in everything that went on here, and how sanely and helpfully he viewed things and advised men. He was a good and helpful friend and supporter of Yale, just as he was of very many men of Yale.

SOPHOMORE SOCIETIES.

The Senior petition to the Faculty for the abolition of Sophomore Societies, and the reasons given for circulating it, appear in another column. There has been a difference of opinion as to the wisdom of this step, but we can see no reason why anyone should complain of it. If it was not necessary, the society men were the ones to forestall it by proper action or statement. A feeling existed that they yet failed to appreciate the strength of the sincere and thoughtful sentiment against the present Sophomore societies. That feeling was entertained by very reasonable men and accurate observers. If it was a wrong feeling, the society men, who are the ones in authority and power, must not criticize those who held it.

But it is idle to speculate about this. The petition went in and it was headed by as fine a list of Yale names as one can well put together in any cause. For completeness, it is almost without parallel. The great majority of men in the Senior class felt that this demonstration was necessary. That is enough to say about it. They made the issue absolutely clear. No reasonable Yale man can now doubt that Sophomore societies, as at present existing, are challenged by the overwhelming sentiment of the College as opposed, in their constitution, to the best interests of Yale. The Seniors have the right to speak for the College and they do not speak one bit more strongly than the classes below them would speak, if it were wise to call upon them to say anything, or than the classes who have graduated before them would speak, if they were asked for their sentiment and had knowledge of the facts.

The situation remains as it was, only it is clearer. The society men still have the responsibility for action on their shoulders. The fact that the petition is addressed to the Faculty is a mere incident. The Faculty do not want to act in any such matter and ought not to act in any such matter. They are individually as keenly interested as any alumni or as any undergraduates can be, but they do not wish to take the responsibility from the shoulders of those upon whom it properly rests. At such a very critical juncture in the affairs of Yale, in a matter of supreme importance to the life of the College, they would be very unwilling to overturn a most important tradition of undergraduate responsibility in matters of undergraduate life. They would feel that they were turning things backward and taking away from the vigor and the wholesomeness of the life of the place. They have not lost faith in those men who are in the societies, whose loyalty and disinterestedness have been proved in every other Yale relation into which they have entered, and who are now called upon to accomplish a great thing for Yale.

With even more confidence we are ready to speak for the alumni, and to say that they do not want to interfere in this matter. They still believe that the undergraduates can settle it. They propose to let them settle it and will not act, unless they who ought to do this work prove unwilling or unable to do it. It goes without saying that they will be only too glad to place their experience, energy and time at the disposal of the undergraduates, if the latter seek their coöperation.

In the meanwhile—and we speak here with great confidence,—they consider the efforts to stir up an angry revolt throughout the graduate ranks of Yale against the existing condition of things, and the attempt thereby to bring pressure upon the Faculty, as ill-timed, as hostile to the interests of Yale unity and as injuring the cause of reform. Their position is: "If we are really called upon to act, we will act and we will do so in a way which will be quite unmistakable; but we are not interfering and we have not lost faith in men who have in every other matter served Yale well." We write this without knowing how many of the petitions which have been circulated have been returned or without knowing how many letters have come in. We write it from a knowledge of the best alumni sentiment of Yale as expressed voluntarily in letters received from all parts of the country, from many classes, and from both society and non-society men.

It is perfectly possible for those who wish to continue this agitation, to do so. but in that direction does not lie any

hope, only a danger. It is perfectly possible for the society men to take this agitation, beginning with the Senior petition, as a threat against them and as an evidence of ill will, and to stand upon their dignity, and to say that they are on the defensive, and to talk about self-respect and pride and all those things. But those who become partisans will no more help the situation than the extreme agitators.

The evidence is at hand of the right disposition on the part of society men, and it must be answered by a cordial response from without. There are men, in the Class of 1900, who thus have the opportunity of their lives to help Yale. It is not hard to guess who these men are. They are the conservative, thoughtful, earnest men, both in and out of the societies, who trust each other and credit each other with an equal sense of loyalty, and who can meet and redeem the situation in a spirit of frank coöperation.

Yale Club Members.

The following were elected members of the Yale Club on February 7, 1900:
Resident—Arnold W. Sherman, '94 L.S.; Carl K. Palmer, '99 S.; J. McLean Walton, '99 S.; Henry Roland, '99; R. G. Dun Douglass, '98; Arthur S. Hamlin, '99; Charles B. Eddy, '93; Gerhard H. Cocks, '99; John S. Phipps, '96 S.; Charles G. Bartlett, jun., '99; E. Howard Lewis, '99; Nelson W. Sayles, '95; John Reid, jun., '99.
Non-Resident—Frederick C. Lee, '96; John F. Archbold, '99 S.; Robert K. Dickerman, '93; Francis G. Hall, '99 S.; Charles M. Cooke, jun., '97; Harvey W. Chapman, '96.

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According to the Standard of the Insurance Department of the State of New York

INCOME

Received for Premiums	- \$44,524,519.22
From all other Sources	- 14,365,557.99
	\$58,890,077.21

DISBURSEMENTS

To Policy-holders for Claims by Death	- \$15,629,979.43
To Policy-holders for Endowments, Dividends, etc.	10,739,057.12
For all other accounts	12,228,444.13
	\$38,597,480.68

ASSETS

United States Bonds and other Securities,	- \$173,185,461.74
First Lien Loans on Bond and Mortgage	- 74,794,821.63
Loans on Bonds and other Securities	6,330,000.00
Loans on Company's Policies	4,374,636.66
Real Estate: Company's 12 Office Buildings and other Properties	23,186,525.06
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies	13,012,455.02
Accrued interest, Net Deferred Premiums, etc.	6,960,637.41
	\$301,844,537.52

LIABILITIES

Policy Reserves, etc.	- \$251,711,988.61
Contingent Guarantee Fund Available for Authorized Dividends	47,952,548.91
	2,180,000.00
	\$301,844,537.52
Insurance and Annuities in force	\$1,052,665,211.64

I have carefully examined the foregoing Statement and find the same to be correct; liabilities calculated by the Insurance Department.

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