

ter. The object was to bring before the graduates the exact form of the Senior petition, the statement of the number of men that signed and a request that graduates interest themselves in securing the best results. The appeal arose from a general class feeling that the graduates should see the petition and that their assistance and advice was quite necessary. For this reason there were no signatures, because those of us who sent them did not feel that it was necessary that we should put our names down as a self-appointed committee, although we gladly shared the trouble and expense of putting the petition in the hands of recent graduates.

"A personal note was sent the Ninety-Nine men, signed by D. R. Hooker, the Class Secretary, and Elliot Watrous, enclosing a blank form of a petition with a request for individual ratification. In doing this, they acted entirely independently.

"We sign our names below, not because we feel that we represent the Class officially, but simply because we comprise the first twenty who signed the original petition as presented to President Hadley, and are responsible for the appeals which were sent to the graduates: E. A. Park, Philip C. Walcott, E. B. Hill, W. R. Maloney, Jr., Jesse D. Dana, James P. Lombard, T. W. Swan, John W. Decrow, Allen I. Kittle, Fred H. Winters, Raymond L. Tweedy, John B. Hartwell, Walter L. Chittenden, Keyes Winter, Clarence E. Ordway, A. Judson Baker, M. E. Lombardi, W. J. Vogeler, Charles S. Brooks, Wm. Rockwell Clarke."

#### The English of the Petition.

To the Editor of YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY:

Sir:—There has recently come to me, and, I believe, to many other Yale graduates, an anonymous communication entitled, "An appeal to Yale Graduates," by which I am informed that 254 members of the present Senior Class have presented to the Faculty a petition which, in the first paragraph, speaks of Sophomore societies; in the second, of the Faculty; in the third, of Junior Fraternities and graduates and undergraduates; and continues with a fourth "Whereas," thus:

"Whereas, After nearly four years of contact and experience with the present system we feel that the need of change is becoming more and more urgent, and because we are unwilling to leave college without an effort to make a beneficial change, as members of the Senior Class we feel ourselves forced, as an expression of our loyalty to the best interests of Yale, to go on record as thoroughly opposed to their existence."

To the existence of whom or what are these Seniors declaring themselves "thoroughly opposed,"—the "Junior Fraternities," "the graduates and undergraduates," "the Faculty," the "Members of the Senior Class," or "the best interests of Yale?"

That 254 out of 324 of the present Senior Class are so savagely nihilistic is the one threatening fact brought home to me by this anonymous communication. The prayer is hopelessly inconsequential to the recital. I venture, as the only fitting conclusion to the quoted clause, "We, therefore, respectfully petition the Faculty, by the help of God, to teach your petitioners the English language."

Very truly yours,

CHARLES H. HAMILL.

Chicago, Feb. 19, 1900.

#### Track Team Training.

Nineteen additional names have been added to the list of candidates trying for the track team, bringing the total up to 245. It is probable that before the middle of March there will be more than three hundred men in training for the different events. Captain Johnson has offered three silver cups for three novice high-jumping contests, in the endeavor to bring out some strong men in an event where Yale has been weak for a good many years. The contests will be held in the early Spring. The hurdlers have already had their first lesson from Mr. Robinson, in the Gymnasium, and the weight men will be started March 1, under the care of Mr. Flanagan, who reports much promising material.

#### Athletic Notes.

The Yale Basketball team defeated a basketball team from Dartmouth Wednesday, Feb. 21, at Boston, by the score of 10 to 8. Both teams played in fine form, but Yale was more aggressive and alert. Clark, 1901, right-forward; Sharpe, M.S., center, and Rogers, 1901, left-guard, scored the points for Yale.

Columbia's hockey team defeated that of Brown at the St. Nicholas Rink, New York, February 23, by the score of 4 points to 1. The game was one of the intercollegiate series. Brown's forwards were very slow and a big score against them was only prevented by the cleverest kind of defensive work on the part of the goal tender.

Yale lost the swimming match to the University of Pennsylvania by less than a foot, in the contest at the Sportsmen's Show at Boston, Saturday, February 24. Teams from the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia and Yale competed and the distance was 320 yards, each man covering a fourth or 80 yards. G. M. Smith, 1901, Yale's first man, finished four yards ahead of the Columbia swimmer, Spencer. At the end of the second relay Columbia had gained the lost distance and was even with C. Oglebay, 1900, who had this relay, while Pennsylvania was eight yards behind. W. R. Orthwein, 1903, Yale's third man, finished with a lead of three yards on Columbia and U. of P., the latter having come up by a splendid spurt by Morse. F. A. Wenck, 1903 L.S., for Yale and Schaeffer of U. of P. fought the last lap out in a remarkable close struggle, in which Schaeffer won by only a few inches.

J. A. Allen, 1900 S., the University tennis champion, won the indoor tennis championship of America in New York, Saturday, February 24, defeating Calhoun Cragin in the finals. His style was very brilliant, especially in smashing and driving. H. H. Hackett, 1900, won the consolation singles, defeating J. P. Paret. In the championship doubles, Hackett and Allen, and Cragin and Paret, after each had won a set, were forced to stop playing on account of darkness. By agreement these sets will not be counted, but a new match will be played Saturday, March 3, at the Seventh Regiment Armory.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Intercollegiate Bicycle Racing Association, which was to have been held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, Saturday, February 24, has been indefinitely postponed.

Captain Allen has begun to move his squad of oarsmen from the tank to the harbor, several of the more proficient crews having been put in the barges last week. The change will go on as fast as possible till all the squad of 116 men are boated. Forty-seven Freshmen are still rowing and about 70 of the upper classes as follows: Seniors 20; Juniors 24; Sophomore 25.

#### Yale-Harvard Hockey Game.

Yale won the hockey game from Harvard Monday night, February 26, at St. Nicholas Rink, New York, by the score of 5 to 4 points, in a very fast and interesting contest. Yale was in the lead the greater part of the game, and her fine team work everywhere could not be overcome by Harvard's heavy rushes. Goodrich of Harvard scored three points unaided. For Yale, Walworth and Inman, who scored two points each, and Bronson, played an exceptionally alert and sure game. Captain Campbell's passing was a feature of the Yale play. There was a very large attendance.

The telegraphic chess match Washington's Birthday, between teams representing Boston and the Institute of Technology on one side and the New Haven and Yale Chess Clubs on the other, was decided in favor of the Boston players.

Leonard A. Hochstader, 1900, won the University Club pool tournament by defeating Harold C. Neal, 1901, in the final round by a score of 75 to 48. Clarkson Potter, 1901, defeated Lester M. Spier, 1901, in the final round of the billiard tournament. The tournaments have been running at the Club for several weeks past.

#### Baseball Candidates.

Mr. Nichols, pitcher of the Boston League Nine, is expected at Yale, Monday, March 4, to take charge of the battery candidates. He will remain until the Easter recess, and besides his work with the pitchers and catchers, will probably give some attention to the other departments of the game. Captain Camp expects several graduate coaches to give a few days each with the team before the Easter trip. The schedule for the trip has been completed but the Faculty has not yet given its approval.

Almost a hundred men are out for the nine, not counting the players on last year's team. Battery practice has been going on daily since February 9, and the work at the Field has begun. There is much fine material in sight.

#### Gymnastic Contest with Columbia.

The Yale Gymnastic team will meet the Gymnastic team of Columbia in the latter's gymnasium in New York, Friday night, March 2. These Yale men will compete: G. H. Whipple, 1900; E. L. Eliason, 1901; R. T. Hinton, 1900, and W. L. Otis, 1900, Captain.

#### Whist With Harvard.

The University Whist team has arranged a match with Harvard to be played at Cambridge about the last of March. There will be eight men on a side, play to be according to the Naragansett system. R. B. Tillinghast, 1902, is captain of the Yale team, and E. M. Tillinghast, Yale '88, coach.

#### Harvard's New Rowing Plan.

The complete failure of the Newell Rowing Club at Harvard to take the place of a satisfactory rival to the Weld Club, has brought the rowing authorities there together with a plan which, it is believed, will take care of the 500 men now rowing and give them adequate instruction. The plan includes the discontinuance of the present method of choosing the class crews and makes the selection arbitrary of the men from all the classes to the two clubs, so that there may be an even distribution between them of rowing ability. Each club will form as many eights as possible from the classes represented and by a process of internal races the best crew of a class in one club will meet the best crew of the same class in the other club, in a contest for the representation of that class in the Class regatta, which will be held about the middle of April. After the Easter recess the system of graded crews, which was used last year, will be begun and after May 2, which is set for the date of a trying out race between these crews, the University crew will be picked. J. J. Storrow will be the head coach, and Harry Vail has been engaged as professional instructor.

#### Philadelphia Yale Banquet.

The Yale Alumni Association of Philadelphia held its thirty-second annual meeting at Bellevue Hotel, Philadelphia, Friday night, February 9, with an attendance of more than a hundred. After the dinner, which was served at 7.30, speeches were made by William H. Ingham, '67, President of the Association; President Arthur T. Hadley, Judge Henry E. Howland, '54, and Hon. Anthony Higgins, '61. A. J. Baker, 1900, was present and spoke for the undergraduates. President Hadley's remarks followed closely in substance those made recently by him on his Western trip. His statement that Old South Middle would be preserved as long as possible and that it would be the last of the Brick Row to go, was received with much enthusiasm. Judge Howland defended the position President Hadley had taken against certain of the trusts of the country, saying that he had been misunderstood by a great many people. The President, he said, did not arraign all rich men and all trusts, but only those which by unfair combinations of capital and dishonest methods of management, were a menace to the general public.

#### Excellent Fighting on Washington's Birthday.

Washington's Birthday, 1900, will live in the minds of the present Yale generation, as the occasion of the best all-around interclass fight seen on the Campus in many a day. The annual struggle was fierce, prolonged and varied, yet full of that spirit of good-natured fun which makes these events other than objectionable. If the Faculty sought to moderate the usual disturbance this year by requiring the men in the College to attend "eight-thirties," their means of reform certainly did not work out as expected. That fight will continue as long as Ratner's stock of gray beavers holds out, and whenever the number of participants is augmented by the addition of those over-cut and over-marked men held in New Haven by a chapel service and first recitation, its glories from the student standpoint will only be increased.

About ten o'clock the Sophomores, equipped with their toppers and canes, assembled at their fence and marched unmolested down Chapel Street. On their return, they were met by a strong representation from the other classes and the snow piles along the edge of the Green afforded ammunition for a spirited running fight, which lasted until the Art School was reached.

Here the Sophomores make a plucky stand, but were finally forced to retire to the Fence. The Freshmen, however, had their first taste of blood and were keen for more, so decided to depart from the usual Yale program and make a mid-Winter attempt to take the Fence. They formed in front of Dwight Hall, came running across the Campus, and when they reached the Sophomores an indescribable mix-up ensued. The rain of the night before had converted the four inches of snow into four inches of good Campus mud, and, when the Seniors brought the unfinished struggle to a close with their cries of "All over," the appearance of the contestants was simply indescribable. But they shook hands all around, 1902 cheered for 1903, 1903 cheered for 1902, and the Freshmen went back to York Street to change their clothes, leaving the Sophomores with their few remaining hats to have their picture taken in peace.

#### Sick Professors Improving.

The report, which was widely circulated, that Prof. E. J. Phelps, who has been very low for several weeks with pneumonia, had suffered a relapse, was untrue. Prof. Phelps is still very weak from the disease, but is at this writing holding his own.

W. H. Bishop, Instructor in Spanish in the Scientific School, is recovering from an attack of pleurisy, and is still confined to his house.

Prof. John Wurts has successfully passed the crisis in his attack of pneumonia and is rapidly recovering.

Prof. Benjamin W. Bacon, who was threatened with typhoid fever, was able to be up last Saturday, the danger being past.

#### Philadelphia Alumni Scholarships.

The Yale Alumni Association of Philadelphia is endeavoring to create one or more Scholarships of \$600 annually for four years, for the education of deserving students from Philadelphia, at Yale. About \$575 have been subscribed at the present writing, so at least one scholarship may be regarded as assured.

#### Oregon Association Prize.

The Oregon Yale Alumni Association has given its prize of \$10 to Edward Josiah Failing, of Portland, Oregon. The prize is awarded annually to that member of the Freshman Class from the State of Oregon who shall pass the best entrance examination.

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Paris, February 22, says that a quartet of Yale students from the student quarter of the city, sang a number of songs at the American University Club banquet held on the evening of Washington's birthday, at the Hotel Continental.