

## YALE ALUMNI WEEKLY

SUBSCRIPTION, - \$3.00 PER YEAR.

Foreign Postage, 40 cents per year.

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Single copies, ten cents each. For rates for papers in quantity, address the office. All orders for papers should be paid for in advance.

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Entered as second class matter at New Haven P. O.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., MAY 16, 1900.

## BASEBALL TICKETS.

Alumni desiring to attend the Yale-Princeton game to be played in New Haven the afternoon of June 2, can secure their tickets through this paper. Applications may be obtained by writing to this paper or they may be obtained after Saturday of this week, from the Yale Club and University Club of New York, Graduates Club of New Haven, University Club of Boston, Colonial Club of Hartford, Thames Club of New London, Waterbury Club of Waterbury, University Club of Chicago, and the University Club of St. Louis. Applications will be received up to Monday, May 28. Tickets will be sent out May 30. Those who are coming from some distance are advised to indicate some point in New Haven where they can call for them. They will be kept in the office of the WEEKLY at the ticket holder's risk.

## NEW TACTICS IN DEBATE.

The account in another column tells the story of Yale's debating defeat at the hands of Princeton. Because new and interesting tactics are there plainly recorded, no one will infer that there is any disposition to accept the decision ungraciously. Yale was well beaten and we have only congratulations for Princeton. If any will say that a disposition to evade arguments and reiterate original contentions, already disproved, is not one to promote in intercollegiate debates, the answer should be that the way to stamp it out is to show on the platform its weakness, by a much more convincing statement of logic and truth. What, pray, is the end of skill in debate but to make men able to present the truth in such a way that all shall recognize it? Truth is ever in conflict with error, and if error wins—we do not say that it did win last week at Princeton—then those who guard the truth have only to reproach themselves. Our correspondent, a most careful observer, evidently thinks that Princeton, weaker in argument, won by a sharp game. All the more does it behoove Yale to see to it that she shall never again fail to make full use of her strength.

We congratulate Yale on doing as well as she did on the traditional lines

of debate. She showed that her men had been splendidly handled and had done excellent work.

## SOPHOMORE SOCIETY REFORM.

As the WEEKLY goes to press, the news is received that one of the Sophomore societies has definitely rejected the plan of society reform, proposed by the conference committee. The general circulation of the news makes its reproduction here proper. The news is a disappointing surprise to the general Yale public. The scheme of reform had already gone through the petitioners of the Senior Class and one of the Sophomore societies. The action above recorded changes the present aspect of affairs, but leaves the promise of a genuine and substantial reform in the near future. That change is bound to come.

## ABOLITION OF "THERMOPYLÆ."

The action of the Faculty recorded elsewhere, forbidding the function known as Thermopylæ, in connection with the Omega Lambda Chi celebration, which occurs on the Monday evening at the end of May, is one to be very heartily approved. The principle of action is stated elsewhere and we believe it to be eminently sound. If all Faculty action were taken on this line, the students would have nothing to complain of in the way of forbidden privileges, the College would not lose good traditions and the cause of order would still be maintained. If Thermopylæ were allowed to go a few years longer with the present big classes, the Freshman Class would some year finish the celebration minus one or more members. A serious and fatal injury is apt to come. A rough-and-tumble fight of that sort is not a wise thing between undergraduates of an Academic Department of 1,200 men or more.

At the same time, the Omega Lambda Chi procession is all the more necessary in a big college. It is one more occasion of bringing everybody together. To retain this celebration by cutting off an objectionable feature, which was not a traditional part of it, was a very wise act of the Faculty, and is much better than to wait until it had gotten worse and then abolish the whole thing, on the principle which has apparently been followed on some occasions in Faculty government.

There is a lesson in this for the responsible portion of the student body. The men of influence in the upper classes ought to watch these valuable customs and prevent their misdirection or abuse. Instead of preventing them from going the wrong way, the average upper classman encourages every chance for a row. Freshmen are urged on to all kinds of foolishness, and it is not strange that they respond. The Junior Society initiations became dangerous and required the interference of the Faculty.

All customs seem to be given the strength of tradition very easily with us. They have only to appear a year or two, when men cry "Hands off! This is ancient and holy!" Let the students acquaint themselves with the facts and more distinctly govern themselves in all these matters.

Dr. Chauncey M. Depew will serve for six more years as a Fellow of Yale. This pleasant fact may already be recorded, for there is not even a nomination against him.

Yale won the golf tournament from Princeton and Columbia on Saturday, May 12. A detailed score will appear in the next issue of the paper.

## PRINCETON WON DEBATE.

[Continued from page 323.]

he claimed that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty would fail to gain its own ends; first, because the neutrality zone should be twenty-five miles instead of three, secondly, because other nations are not prevented from building fortifications outside the three mile limit, and, thirdly, because there is no adequate provision made for enforcing its neutrality.

## MR. TROWBRIDGE'S ARGUMENT.

Mason Trowbridge, 1902\*, at once answered these objections, saying that three miles extends to the high seas, and beyond that two nations may not neutralize; secondly, that as for building fortifications, the Central American nations were not powerful enough to undertake them, England and the United States could not, under the Clayton-Bulwer compact, and we would enforce the Monroe doctrine against any other nation; thirdly, that the agreement of England and the United States to neutralize the canal is the most efficient guarantee possible of its enforcement.

Princeton did not attempt to meet these answers, but dropped the points until she reasserted them in her last rebuttal. Mr. Trowbridge then showed that the negative, in asking for any other protection of the canal than that granted, must be asking for the right to fortify; but fortification means great danger that an enemy may close the canal. Neutralization, however, was in accord with our historic policy and was in accord with the wisest statesmanship.

## ANOTHER DISCLAIMER BY PRINCETON.

Joseph A. Jones, 1900, again disclaimed any intention on Princeton's part to argue for fortifications and charged Yale with manufacturing negative arguments instead of meeting the ones presented. He then insisted that England would consent to any other modification we might desire of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. After arguing this point, he maintained that the United States should have the right to absolutely control the canal for the sake of self-defense. In Mr. Stein's opening rebuttal for Princeton it was contended that we must have the right to fortify, if we choose. Mr. Trowbridge, in rebutting for Yale, said that it was impossible to pin Princeton down to any definitive position. He quoted a number of phrases used by Princeton, which, if they meant anything, he said, meant fortification, while in the next breath Princeton would deny that they were arguing for fortification. He asked Princeton to state what she did stand for. He then argued that we did not want to induce England to get rid of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, for that is a bulwark of the Monroe doctrine.

Mr. Hill said that what Princeton wanted was not fortification, but the right to blow up the canal in case our fleets should be annihilated.

In answer to this Mr. Lord replied that in any such case the enemy could play such havoc with our coast towns that the canal would be of no use to them. Princeton had argued for the right to fortify, but refused to argue for the value of fortifying. If neutralization was rejected, the only alternative was fortification, if the canal was to be defended. But neutralization was the only safe defense.

## ASSURANCE IN CLOSING.

In closing for Princeton Mr. Jones showed great assurance in reaffirming all the points Princeton had made, although they had been totally unable to meet Yale's answers to them. His most emphatic assertion was that argued by their first speaker, that no canal would ever be built under the Hay-Pauncefote

[Continued on page 327.]

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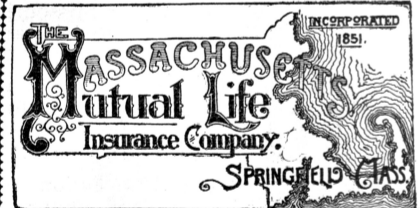
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