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The Normal Red Letter

VOLUME IV.

State Normal School, Moorhead, Minnesota, April, 1903.

No. 7

"OUR LITTLE BROWN BROTHERS."

BY MISS ELEANOR DONALDSON.

[The author of this article is a graduate of the Minnesota State University Class of 1900. She saited for the Philippine Islands as a teacher in July, 1901. She was stationed in Dugapan, one hundred fifty miles north of Manila.]

That is what every one here laughingly calls them. The thing that first impresses one on seeing the Filipino children, is the scantiness of their clothing. Until the boys are eight or ten years old, an extremely short shirt is considered all that the most particular could require in the line of clothes. That is on week days; when Sabbath comes they bathe, and put on stiff white clothes in which to attend church. It is quite an easy matter to tell the day of the week by the degree of dirtiness of the boys' clothes. On Monday they are clean, on Tuesday not so clean, and so on, each day adding its quota of dirt. Of course this is not true of all classes, but I am writing of the common people for I know them best, as the wealthiest Filipinos do not send their children to the free public schools. I have never had trouble with children coming to my school without sufficient clothes, but in some parts of the islands it is quite a problem to induce the small boys to wear trousers to school. One day I missed a little lad from school and asked the other boys why Ponciano was absent. One of his friends explained that he had to stay at home in order to have his trousers washed. I considered the excuse a good one. Many of the children have only one suit of clothes, but they manage to wear that a marvelously long time without washing. They are very careful to keep their clothes clean, always spreading a handkerchief on the seat before sitting down, and as soon as they get home from school they carefully take off their clean clothes to preserve them for another day. One sees some rather startling color effects. One of my boys wears bright red calico trousers, and a green plaid coat. Another has a blue and yellow plaid suit. They love bright colors and look well in them, too.

I have taught boys ever since I came over here, so all I say is true only of the boys as I know very little about the Filipino girls. The boys are, I think, quicker than the girls and more original. This of course is only natural, as the women and girls are the workers, and have not had the chance to develop mentally that the men and boys have had. When we first began to teach the conditions were very discouraging and are yet, although they have improved greatly during the past year. The first day I was rather overpowered, when I found that there were not nearly enough benches for the children. So for about two weeks the poor little tots squatted around on the floor, until the town had some bamboo benches made. The length of time that it took to construct these seats was my first experience of the truth of the saying, "You can't hurry the East." Here, when one asks, when anything will be completed, the answer is always, "manana," (tomorrow). At first we needed easy books as well as benches. We had some books, such as Montgomery's History of the United States, but as you can see this was a trifle hea-

vy to give to children who didn't know a word of English, excepting a large and varied assortment of curses that they had picked up from hearing the soldiers use them. I never realized how inappropriate, even the best primary books published in America would be in a country like this, until I came to try to use them in the schools here. The primary books are all full of robins, Jack Frost, snow, American flowers and other things absolutely unknown over here. If you just look over a primer, and cut out all that is inappropriate, and see what is left you will realize better some of the difficulties with which English teachers in the Philippine Islands have had to contend through lack of appropriate books. We have been getting more and more books all year, until now we have a good many very good ones, but even yet there is great need of books written especially for the Philippine Islands.

It is hard for the people back in the states to realize what a school room here is like. Of



ELEANOR DONALDSON.

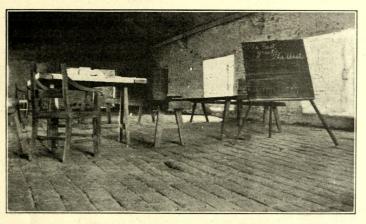
course they vary greatly in different parts of the islands; but I will try to give an idea of the ones I have seen and taught in. benches, when one has them, are generally made of bamboo, and are very apt to collapse any moment, and let a whole row of boys down at once. This is likely to cause a slight disturbance. The benches are long; about eight or ten boys sit crowded on a bench intended for four, and if the boy on the inside next the wall wants to get out, he gets up and either crowds past the others, carefully stepping on their toes as he passes and thereby causing war, or better, he climbs up on the desk and walks along on the top of it, until he reaches the aisle, and then jumps down. As you see this makes much blackboard work impossible, even if one had plenty of blackboard space, which one hasn't. A teacher is very fortunate who has six or eight blackboards about 41/2 feet by 3½ feet. These have to do for the entire school. I have no desk or table, but am the happy possessor of a chair. For the first month I had no chair, but this did not much matter, as I had very little time to use it.

At first the work was without any system of grading. The children were in one big class, as they were all equally ignorant of English. As time went on, the brighter pupils drew ahead, and now there are six classes, or grades in my school. The lowest, or sixth class includes the little fellows just entering, at least, they are supposed to be little, but when a big boy comes to school, he has to be put in the lowest class. As a consequence the sixth class is a sort of hodge-podge of boys from five to twenty years of age. The fifth and sixth classes have no books in my school. They are taught by the question-and-answer method and by means of pictures, charts and actions, acting out the words. As for instance at the beginning, I tried to have them learn to understand, and use in very simple sentences common verbs, such as run, catch, throw, walk, etc. I have the children act out the verbs, and then tell what they have done. Then I have them learn a lot of common nouns, and then comes the struggle to make them talk. The fifth and sixth classes are taught to count, and to add simple numbers. This may seem very little to teach them, but when you remember that everything has to be taught in a language foreign to them, and that the classes are very large, thirty or forty little wrigglers in a class, you will see that the course of study must needs be very simple indeed.

The fourth class has a primer. They read this, learn to spell all the words, and make easy sentences with the words in their spelling lesson. They have no arithmetic, but are taught simple multiplication, subtraction and addition. The third class have a more difficult reader, and I try to have them do some composition work. They have arithmetic also. The second class have books for arithmetic, geography and reading. The fifth class in addition to the work of the previous class have easy lessons in English grammar. This course of study is true only for my own particular school. Conditions vary so much in different places that it would be impossible to make out a course of study that could be strictly followed by all. The thing we are trying to do first and foremost is to teach the English language. It is very slow, discouraging work, because one does not have the same pupils long enough to make much headway. When the season for planting rice is on, many of the poorer children have to leave school, and go out into the rice fields. They are also taken out at harvest time. So during these seasons, the schools in those parts of the islands, where there is much rice raised, are almost empty, while the rest of the year the children flock in in such numbers that the teacher has so many that she can do very little for the individual pupils. I have not had so much of this to contend with as some others. Indeed, my boys have attended remarkably regularly. I have about one hundred and sixty boys enrolled, and have an average attendance of ninety per cent every month, which is very good indeed for this country. Yesterday, I was rather startled at the excuse one boy gave. He asked to be excused that

day, and when I inquired the reason for his desired absence he said his brother-both he and his brother were in school day before yesterday-was dead, had died of cholera and, that he wanted to go to the funeral. I let him go, and explained that he had better stay away for a little while. Quite a number of my boys have fallen victims to the cholera this year. I have to have my school in two little houses about a block apart. They are both small and dirty, but are much better than many of the teachers have. The town started a new school building months ago, but when the cholera came, work had to be stopped, and it has never been started up again. One surely has to learn "to make haste slowly" in this country. I have three native assistant teachers. I am very fortunate in having good native teachers. I do not mean that they are so wonderfully proficient in English, but they are gentlemen and conscientious, which is I believe, from what I hear from other teachers, rather unusual. They teach entirely in English. Of course they make many mistakes, but they have lessons every day and are improving right along. We teach the children from eight to twelve in the morning, and the teachers from two-thirty to four in the afternoon. We begin school in the morning with singing and simple recitations. The children love to sing, especially the American patriotic songs, only be-

cause it gives them such an excellent opportunity to shout, and shout they They do. like to sing "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean." At first I was grieved, because they gave the chorus as "Three beers



Interior view of Miss Donaldson's school house, showing all supplies for eighty children.

for the red, white and blue"—one apiece you see. I asked them, "What does that mean?"-"Oh, beer to drink," said they. I remonstrated, and so they now sing it, "Three chairs for the red, white and blue," and they cannot be persuaded to change again. One boy who came from another town where the teachers had taught them to sing "Home Sweet Home," one day requested that my school might sing "I like the house." But I was cruel enough to refuse, when I finally found out that he wanted to sing "Home Sweet Home." The same trouble of inappropriateness exists in songs as in books. It is most ridiculous, when the little brown pickaninnies stand up and shout with the full force of their powerful lungs "My Country, 'tis of thee, Sweet Land of Liberty.' I have heard so many people say that they considered the Filipinos very musical. I have not been impressed with any extraordinary musical talent. They are all very fond of music, and some are clever at it, but I cannot say that as a race they have any marked ability along musical lines. The children are very, imitative. I think they might do well in drawing up to the point, where any originality was required. They do not create, they copy.

One would naturally think they would have active imaginations since they are such story

tellers, but they seem lacking in inventive faculties in all lines. One of our greatest difficulties is to draw out any originality. They love to memorize their lessons, and read them off exactly as they are in the book. Another drawback in the work over here is their absolute lack of any understanding of truth or honesty. A very few are fairly honest, but most will lie, and often not to gain anything by it, but merely for the enjoyment of an artistic performance in lying. They are great flatterers. The children become very fond of their teachers, and will do anything for them. I have never needed to use any severe punishment. It has never been necessary to whip any of the boys. The children are docile, and very interesting. They learn rather quickly, but I do not believe they would ever go very deeply. The Filipino man is almost universally a gambler, and in this "the boy is father to the man," for the boys all play money games. They have one game of pitching pennies in which the most expert gets the pennies. This is a very popular game, but although they like to play the money games best, they are also fond of ball, spinning tops and flying kites. They are very skillful at flying kites, and can fly them when there doesn't seem to be a breath of wind stirring. They take great pleasure in making their kites fight each other. They put glue, mixed with finely pounded glass on the

> string, and then send the kite up into the air. The string is very sharp and cuts like a knife. Two boys cross their kite strings, and each tries to destroy the other's kite. The older boys have become very

much interested in base ball which they have learned to play by watching the They did not know soldiers playing. of this game before the American occupation. They played ball with a woven wicker ball, the boys playing standing in a circle. The game was to keep the ball going by kicking it from one boy to another. The older men and boys play this game very well indeed. The Filipino boys are not strong and muscular like their American brothers. This is partly due of course to the hot climate, for one cannot exercise here much without becoming sick. As a whole they are lovable little lads and one becomes much interested in them, but it is slow, slow work. It is very hard not to expect more than is possible, and then be disappointed, because it does not come.

LITERARY SOCIETIES.

On March 2nd the Livingston Society rendered one of its most successful programs. Eva Mark opened the exercises with a mandolin solo entitled "Under the Double Eagle," which was given in a very creditable manner. Next followed one of the best numbers of the evening, "Neighbors," a story in Yankee dialect by Alta Kimber. The following question for debate was then announced: "Resolved, that

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labor organization is a sufficient and desirable means of controlling trusts." Lewis Larson and P. P. Tungseth argued for the affirmative while O. E. Roning and O. S. Gunderson supported the negative. The judges decided in favor of the negative. "The Gigglety Gigglety Girl," by Grace Adler, "Saint Peter at the Gate," by Lizzie Burns and "Socrates Snookes," by Grace Walker, were all well given.

ATHLETICS.

The Normal has been invited to participate in a field meet to be held at Grand Forks this spring. The matter was brought up at a meeting of the Athletic Association and a committee appointed to communicate with the University of North Dakota, under whose auspices the meet is to be held, regarding expenses, time and other matters of detail. If the conditions are such as to make it desirable for our school to enter the boys will begin practice as soon as the weather will permit.

The Normal School has been asked to become a party to the North Dakota Athletic conference. This conference was organized two years ago by North Dakota University, Fargo College and North Dakota Agricultural College for the purpose of putting athletics in these institutions on a sound amateur basis. Since then other schools have joined, giving added prestige and force to the rules.

The prospects for a base ball team this spring are exceedingly small. While there is little hope for a team to compete with outsiders, the boys will undoubtedly play ball for exercise and pure love of the sport.

Wise Miss in Zoology (just before test): I know what a paramoecium is. He can't stick me on that. It's a little jigger that lives in hay and you have to soak him out.

Instructor (discussing carbon): what is there about a diamond ring that makes it so valuable?

Miss McG-re: I really can't explain professor, except that I have always wanted one.

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The Normal Red Letter.

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On the morning of January 21 Professor William Lowe Bryan was inaugurated president of the Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana. For some years Dr. Bryan has occupied the chair of psychology in that institution in which position he attained not a little eminence. He was one of the pioneers of the child study movement and has done same excellent work along the lines of physiological and pedagogical psychology, so that he was probably the best known member of the faculty. At the zenith of manhood, possessed of the elements of personality and originality, he seems to have been the logical choice for the position. The Indiana University has not kept pacewith the similar institutions of the middle west since former President Jordan relinquished the helm, and it is to be hoped that President Bryan may be able to instill some new life into its activities which will hasten the realization of its bright promises of earlier years.

The recent action of the University of Chicago in the matter of seggregation has opened up the whole question of co-education, believed to have been finally settled a generation ago, to renewed discussion. speeches by offended females in educational conventions, and articles good, bad and indifferent, in recent educational and scentific magazines bear evidence of the renewal of the strife. Almost without exception, however, these arguments have entirely missed the issue, have merely scratched about on the surface without getting at the heart of the matter. The question of co-education is not a question of financial or social expediency, of mental equality of the sexes, nor even of morality. It is fundamentally a question of biology. It is not to be settled by rehashing old arguments, by appeals to morbid sentimentality, by personal prejudices or categorical statements. It is not a question for argument but a problem for investigation. As was suggested above, while it has its moral and economic bearings it is primarily a question of biology,—a question for experts, not for laymen. The Red Letter therefore advises its readers not to be led into thinking of the question of co-education as one which any person may decide off hand, nor to make light of the opinions of those who hold opposing views, but rather await the judgments of those who are working at the heart of the matter and who alone are competent to advise.

THE NEW ADDITION.

A Description of its Various Departments and Their Uses.

Very slowly and quietly the various departments of the new addition to the main building are being completed and opened up to the uses of the school. The assembly hall has been in use since the last week of the winter term, the gymnasium is regularly open for physical exercises and the various departments

of the second floor will soon be equipped and ready. The time has therefore arrived to give a running sketch of the building and to indicate the uses for which it is designed. There is the greater demand for such a sketch, perhaps, because reports have been circulated, both in our own community and in the legislative chambers at St. Paul, that are not only uncomplimentary but utterly erroneous.

For the new addition is not a monstrosity, a misshapen parasite that clings to the main block and ruins its symmetry. It is an honest piece of architecture, erected with honest pains and devoted to honest ends. Both in itself and in its relation to the main building, of which it forms a part, it is architecturally ef-In the words of State Architect Johnson, who examined the plant on March 19th, it is the best piece of building erected for the state this year.

SYMMETRY OF THE WHOLE.

The addition is a west extension to the main building, ninety feet long by about seventy feet wide, over all. It has three stories, corresponding to those of the main building, and the general plan of its exterior is patterned closely after that of older part. The noble symmetry of the main building, with its towers, its aspiring peaks, its pillared windows and its deeply arched portico, has often excited favorable remark. It was therefore a delicate matter in constructing so large an addition to preserve the balanced symmetry of the whole. Because of the unusual height of the center roof-peak, on the main building, as compared with the roof-peak on either side, a perfect balance between the old structure and the new was practically impossible. It would require another ninety foot addition on the east end fully to accomplish this. But the new addition, except for its slightly lower roof (which rises to the height of the secondary peaks, not the main peak) and its distance from the main entrance, is in perfect harmony with the old building; it has the same proportions and the same design of ornament. Its decorative gables, like those of the main building, are particularly attractive.

THE GYMNASIUM.

The entire space of the ground floor is occupied by the big gymnasium, with its dressing rooms and baths. In the boys' dressing rooms there are about twenty-five lockers, four shower baths and complete toilet equipments; in the girls' dressing rooms there are more than treble this number of lockers, and the furnishings are more elaborate. The gymnasium has a fine maple floor, is ceiled in Georgia pine and has a double row of windows along its outer walls-42 in all. It is high, and roomy and dignified. A narrow balcony will surround it. Its one defect is the presence of four steel pillars distributed evenly throughout the eastern two-thirds of its length. The west third is entirely free and will afford sufficient space for practicing basket ball. For all other athletic purposes, except indoor base ball, the pillars will offer no obstruction. Since the solidity of the building demanded the pillars, either on the first or the third floor, the wisdom of placing them in the gymnasium instead of in the auditorium is manifest to all,

THE SECOND STORY.

The second floor includes, on the south, a library and a biological laboratory, both of ample size and similar in form. They are adequately lighted, and convenient for their spe-

cial uses. From each, by way of a corner tower, a winding stair-case proceeds to the wings of the stage above. By this means performers in an entertainment can reach the stage without passing through the auditorium. In the biological laboratory there are provisions for running water, and the east wall is supplied with about 200 square feet of slate blackboard. This room is tinted in shades of green, while the library is colored in soft browns. All the rooms of this second floor are furnished with steel ceiling, the patterns of which are very attractive.

The north side of this story is devoted to a long drawing room, with an art room annex, and to a small lecture room that will be used by the President. The walls of the drawing room are done in two shades of brown, the darker shade covering the lower part of the side walls, and the lighter shades leading from the picture molding to the ceiling. A picture rail is placed a little above six feet from the floor and is designed to support bits of statuary or bric-a-brac and the best specimens of student drawings. A north light from many windows, regulated by shades, will give a proper illumination for the art work that will be carried on here. In the small annex will be preserved the few specimens of statuary, casts, etc., already in possession of the school, and such as may be secured hereafter. A striking feature of this second story is the main corridor, which extends two hundred and eighty feet straight away through the entire building.

THE AUDITORIUM.

The crown of the new structure is the auditorium. It covers the entire top floor, and will accommodate upwards of seven hundred people. The dimensions of the floor space exclusive of the stage are 48x90 feet. space is occupied by students' desks and an extra row of seats along the walls. The balcony is graceful in proportions, and is encased in Georgia pine—the finishing wood of all the rooms in the new addition. It is reached by two stairways, the principal ascent rising from the main corridor at the entrance to the auditorium, and the second from the south east corner of the auditorium itself. Two rows of windows, one below, the other above the balcony, let daylight into this big room. At night it is illuminated by a long row of incandescent lamps extending around the front of the balcony, by bracket lamps under the balcony and by chandeliers from the ceiling.

The front of the auditorium is decorated with simple dignity. On either side of the stage a pair of fluted Corinthian pilasters gives an impression of solidity to the wall spaces, which are further relieved by niches. The proscenium arch that spans the intervening space is graceful both in outline and in ornament. The stage itself is deep and ample. Its extreme width behind the scenes is 40 feet and its depth 20 feet; its proscenium arch is 26 feet broad and 20 feet high. It is fully equipped with modern stage appliances, has a complete switch board and dimmer, and is supplied with several sets of scenery that are both tasteful in design and elegant in execution. The Venetian drop curtain is a work of rare beauty, unsurpassed in delicacy of workmanship by anything of its kind in the northwest.

The assembly room is aptly named the auditorium; for its acoustic properties are wellnigh perfect. Voices from the stage pitched in a natural tone, singing or speaking, can be distinctly heard in all parts of the house. This was a consideration to which President Weld gave careful attention, not only during the draughting of the plans but in the actual construction of the building. His individuality is discernible in many of the most salient features of the addition, but nowhere more clearly nor to better advantage than in this. When it became necessary to cut down on the specifications, in order to keep within the appropriation, he kept a careful eye on everything that was vital to the acoustics of the auditorium. As a consequence, a listener in any part of the hall can hear distinctly every utterance from the stage.

It is plain from what has been said that the workmanship of the new addition is first class. Any defect in material, every flaw in the work, has been quickly sought out and perfected. No detail has been overlooked, and the vigilance of the builder has been untiring. It is therefore only fitting that the name of W. H. Merritt, the Moorhead contractor who was responsible to the state, should be gratefully associated with this work. The contract was a large undertaking. That Mr. Merritt has fulfilled it with such success, and won the favor not only of the patrons of the school but of the more critical eye of the state, is a handsome tribute to his integrity and skill.

NEWS COMMENT.

The school had the honor of entertaining a large delegation from the state legislature on Thursday, March 12. The party arrived in the city on its special cars early in the morning, and was breakfasted at the Columbia Hotel. The morning was spent visiting classes at the school and inspecting the various departments; lunch was served at Wheeler Hall, and in the afternoon at two-thirty the school had the pleasure of listening to several delightful addresses by members of the legislature and Supt. Olsen. A banquet was served at Wheeler Hall in the evening, and at its conclusion a general reception, followed by a short program given by members of the faculty, was held in the auditorium. The legislative party then repaired to its special cars for the return trip to St. Paul.

Of the young people who made up the University Dramatic Club, all the ladies—Misses Leonard, Bean, Arnold, Hollingshead and Gillespie—together with their chaperone, Mrs. Leonard, were entertained at Wheeler Hall. Messrs. Keyes and Myers were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Comstock, Messrs. Arnold and Thompson enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Burnham, while Mr. Gibson was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Perley and Mr. Brown and Mr. Horace Reed were guests of Mr. Reed. The students were a distinct credit to the University of Minnesota and made a very favorable impression upon all who met them.

Mr. Holt, director of the play, was the guest of Pres. and Mrs. Weld.

* * *

It was with a true feeling of pleasure and perhaps a little pardonable pride that the students assembled Tuesday morning, March 17th, at the first chapel exercises held in the new auditorium. For about two years we have had no morning assembly, but the want, for so long, of this helpful half hour has taught us

to appreciate its benefits and be doubly glad of the advantages we now have.

* * *

The first two of the preliminary debates to decide who should represent the school in the coming contest with Valley City, were held March 19th and 20th. The judges were Miss Simmons, Mr. Stanford and Mr. Reed. From the number who participated the judges selected Miss Henderson, Miss Boe, Mr. Roning and Mr. Skaug to enter the final preliminary. This was held March 30th and it was decided that Miss Henderson, Mr. Skaug and Mr. Roning be the final champions, with Miss Boe as alternate. The contestants will now proceed in their preparation to go after the scalp of Valley City.

* * *

Supt. Van Dyke of Fergus Falls who was one of the judges at the cup contest, addressed the school the following morning. He enlarged upon the statement made by President Weld during chapel that he had missed the students during the past two years more than they had missed him. Mr. Van Dyke congratulated the students upon the enlarged facilities they now enjoyed and expressed the hope that Fergus Falls might in time secure some of the equipments possessed by the Moorhead Normal. His remarks were interesting and inspiring and aroused the sincere applause of his hearers.

Prof. J. Paul Goode, formerly a member of the Normal faculty, now an instructor in the University of Pennsylvania, has accepted a position as assistant professor of geography at the University of Chicago. His work begins

in July.

President Weld lectured at Wheaton on April 1st. His engagement to lecture at Pelican Rapids on April 3rd he was obliged to cancel on account of illness.

* * *

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Miss Osden read from Tennyson's lyrics at the recital of the Unity Club, March 16th, and took part in an entertainment given by the Imperial Quartette and a few of its friends at Valley City, March 30th.

* * *

A company of the young ladies at the Hall gave a sleighing party on the evening of Friday, February 20th, serving refreshments at the conclusion of the drive.

* * *

"What's in a Name?" is the title of a new inquiry that Mr. Chambers is conducting with a view to arriving at some vital conclusions concerning the significance of names and nicknames.

* * *

Miss Leonard sang at the entertainment given by the public schools in connection with their picture exhibit on the evening of Saturday, March 14th, and again on the program given in celebration of St. Patrick's Day at Fraternity Hall. She was cordially received on both occasions.

* * *

Going to school is not so expensive after all. Every day in school is worth ten dollars, and it doesn't cost half that. This was the encouraging message of our Resident Director, Mr. Comstock, in his address to the students on March 24th. In a sincere and kindly manner he unfolded the benefits—in discipline, power, capacity and character—that the student was

laying up for himself in the business of going to school. He showed that the investment was a success—that it pays, and pays in coin of the realm.

* * *

The University Dramatic Club furnished a charming entertainment for a house-full of people at the auditorium on the evening of Saturday, March 28th. The curtain went up on a brisk little farce, "A Pair of Lunatics," in which Mr. Le Roy Arnold and Miss Ruth E. Leonard distinguished themselves for their vivacious and effective comedy. The principal drama, "One Summer's Day," presented a series of very pleasing stage pictures, some happy effects in comedy and a touch of romantic sentiment. The plot is conventional, but the characters, though not strong, are individual and well balanced. A gratuity of British oaths added nothing to the opening scenes, which were delayed through trivial and pointless stage business. But the young people put into their parts all that the lines would warrant; they managed the livelier scenes with spontaniety and warmth, and kept the audience expectant. Mr. Arnold as Theodore Bendyshe was distinctly the hit of the play, and both he and Miss Hollingshead displayed undoubted talent. Miss Bean and Miss Alden were gracefully attractive and Mr. Myers had a true conception of the gipsy boss. Altogether, the play was distinctly pleasing and met with the heartiest favor of the audience.

* * *

Earl Barnard, a former student of the Normal, popular with a large circle of young people, happy in disposition and robust in body and mind, died very suddenly as a result of the grip on the evening of March 14th. His early and abrupt death was a sad shock to his many friends at the Normal, who lament the loss of his cheerful presence.

* * *

That the third year class is the "only one going" was satisfactorily demonstrated February 28th when a party of fifteen drove out to the home of Grace McKenzie. For a few hours the sky parlors were the scene of action, and with a little more snow the ride would have been ideal. Songs and yells were given with a heartiness becoming the occasion. The boys grappled their task as drivers with as much spirit as grace, and two of the girls also distinguished themselves, especially when accidents occurred. The coveted place was reached, and the party "pitched camp," finding a good fire and many novel forms of entertainment. A progressive game was played in which Ray McCubrey and Ethel Mudgett won prizes. Refreshments were served, and the company delayed its departure as long as decorum would permit.

The Literary societies have elected the following officers for the spring term: Livingston, president, Hannah Boe; vice president, Margaret McKenzie; secretary, Caroline Nelson; treasurer, Flora Tripp; doorkeeper, Mary Curran. Augustine: President, Julius Skaug; vice president, Ethel Shave; secretary, Wallace Butler; treasurer, Alice Hendrixson, doorkeeper, Michael Schranz.

PERSONALS.

Bertha Norby spent March 22nd at her home in Detroit.

Mrs. Stalley of Hawley visited her daughter Edith March 7th.

Miss Rostad of Ada visited Blanche Lynes on March 24th.

Miss Mary Erickson of Wheaton visited friends March 11th.

Mrs. Brock visited her daughters Josie and Eunice on March 24th.

Mr. Natwick of Twin Valley visited his son Clarence on March 7th.

Miss Emma Swart of Fargo was Miss Donaldson's guest on March 26th.

Mr. and Mrs. Hannay of St. Hilaire visited their daughter Mabel March 28th.

State Building Inspector Johnson inspected the Normal building March 19th.

Gus Euren, our new janitor, will build a house near the Normal this summer.

Miss Agnes McGuire of Appleton spent March 5th and 6th with her sister Lucy.

Johanna Johnson spent several days on her claim near Minot, N. D., during the last week of March.

Mr. H. L. Baldwin of Minneapolis representing the Cresent Publishing Co., called on some of the boys March 11th.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray of Hawley visited friends at Wheeler Hall and attended the opening recital at the auditorium March 6th.

Supt. Kemple of Wheaton, Minn., spent March 7th at the Normal. The object of his visit was to secure teachers for the Wheaton schools

R. A. Hill returned March 31st from Halstad where he has had charge of the schools for six weeks. Mr. Hill has been engaged as principal of the Halstad schools for next year at a salary of eighty dollars per month.

The Misses Sorenson and Swenson of St. Cloud and McFadden and Holton of Minneapolis accompanied the legislators on their visit of March 12th and were the guests of Mabel Hannay, Flora Pelton and Sella Holton.

ALUMNI NOTES.

Olga Staake, '01, is teaching at Herman, Minn.

Henry Norby, '96, died at Christiania, Norway, some weeks ago.

The following whimsical little sketch by Alfred Boe, president of the "sand bank" of '97, who is now prospecting for gold in the mountains of British Columbia will interest our readers.

Otto Bergh, 'or, is dividing his attention between teaching and acquiring real estate in Northern Minnesota. At present he is fulfilling the requirements of the homestead law on a claim near Black Duck but he will resume his work in the Gary school in about a month.

THE CUP CONTEST.

The second annual cup contest took place in the new auditorium Monday evening, March 16th. The interest of the public as well as the school was manifest by the fact that the auditorium was crowded to its full capacity. The students were divided according to their allegiance to one or the other of the two societies, the Livingstons taking the right, the Augustines the left side of the house. President Weld made a few remarks introducing the program, which was as follows:

Orchestra.

Debate: Resolved, That organized labor is a greater menace to our commonwealth than organized capital. Affirmative (Livingston): Stena Henderson, Conrad Hovden, Clarence Natwick. Negative (Augustine): Julius Skaug, Emil Larson, Jennie Wold.

Vocal Music: Flora Trip (Livingston):

(a) "Asthore," Trotere; (b) "A Winter Lullaby," DeKoven. Bessie Van Houten (Augustine): (a) "The Flowers Are All Ablow," Pfefferkorn; (b) "Rosalie," DeKoven.

Essay: Clara Nelson (Augustine): The Triumph of Self-abnegation. Hannah Boe (Livingston): Disappointed Hopes.

Declamation: Mary Curran (Livingston): "The Hundred and Oneth," Donnell. Thora Hagen (Augustine): "Commencement," Kellogg.

Instrumental Music: Josephine Kaus (Augustine): (a) Mazurka, Saint Saens; (b) The Butterfly, Grieg. Margaret McKenzie (Livingston): "Valse Entrainte," Wachs.

Oration: Oscar Askegaard (Livingston): Theodore Roosevelt. Wallace Butler (Augustine): The Hague Tribunal.

Orchestra.

Announcement of Decision: Pres. Frank A. Weld.

Presentation of Cup to the Winning Society: Hon. S. G. Comstock.

The contestants were far in advance of those of last year both as to excellence of matter and manner of presentation, and the program was a credit to the societies and the school. In order to facilitate the task of the judges, and to have the final decision ready for immediate announcement at the conclusion of the numbers, the judges rendered their decision on each event of the contest as it was finished, their ballots being delivered, sealed, to Mr. Hillyer, who retained them till the final decision was ready for announcement. Though the contest was close and exciting, The Augustine, by award of the judges, won all the seven points. The Livingstons were naturally somewhat dispirited after their defeat, but that they have lost neither hope nor perseverance is attested by the fact that in the last preliminary debate for the selection of champions to meet Valley City,

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the Livingstons entered three candidates to the Augustines one. May both the societies continue in the path of progress that has already lifted them to a point of noble vantage.

SNOWSHOEING.

Snowshoeing is a means of locomotion when the snow is too deep to navigate, too fluffy to float on, and still a bit uncomfortable to swim in. It consists principally of hard work, headers, cuss words and broken snowshoes. Some people like big snowshoes, some small snowshoes and others none at all. I prefer the last as long as I can stay in camp, but for hunting they are indispensable. You start up a mountain and, if you are in a hurry, you very soon acquire the art of falling up hill,—that is, the snowshoes are up the hill, while your head and arms are in the opposite direction and usually under the snow. Be sure to have your hunting knife handy as it now becomes necessary for you to cut the ties that bind you to all that is near and dear above. But the high aims of a mountaineer can not be frustrated by such trivial accidents and so you get on your feet again and repeat the process.

CHRONICLE.

Mar. 2.—Literary societies meet.—Meeting of joint contest committee.—Tests in Physics and Civil Government.

Mar. 4.—Election of officers for both literary societies.--First meeting of school in new assembly hall.

Mar. 5.—Mrs. Stanford absent; students have charge of her classes.

Mar. 6.—Formal opening of new auditorium.—Literary societies meet to consider admission fee to annual contest.—Mary D. Olson gives a party to about twenty of her friends.

Mar. 7.—Faculty meeting.—Literary societies postpone contest one week.—Livingston's proposed amendment to constitution.

Mar. 12.—Delegation from state legislature visits school; members address students in auditorium.—Banquet at Wheeler Hall and reception at the auditorium in the evening.

Mar. 13.—Mrs. Stanford resumes her duties.—Meeting of contestants in the evening.

Mar. 14.—Meeting of literary societies to adopt amendment to constitution.—End of winter term.—Death of Earl Barnard.

Mar. 16.—Literary societies hold annual contest; Augustines win cup.

Mar. 17.—Supt. Van Dyke of Fergus addresses the school.—First chapel exercises. -Miss Leonard sings at Fraternity Hall.

Mar. 19.—First preliminary debate for selecting debaters to meet Valley City.—Nine Wheeler Hall girls give a sleigh ride to a few of their friends.

Mar. 20.—Second preliminary debate.—Resident Director Comstock addresses school.

Mar. 21.—Owl meeting.

Mar. 24.—Mr. Stanford absent; Mrs. Stanford has charge of his classes.

Mar. 26.—Literary societies select Red Letter editors.

Mar. 27.—Rev. Wilson of Mandan attends chapel exercises.—Battle of the Amazons at Wheeler Hall; they pommel one another with —pillows.

Mar. 28.—Mrs. Burnham sings in chapel.— Ghosts appear at Wheeler Hall.—University Dramatic Club presents "A Pair of Lunatics" and "One Summer's Day" at auditorium.—Reception in gymnasium.

Mar. 30.—Miss Osden reads at Valley City. -Last preliminary debate; O. E. Roning, Stina Henderson and Julius Skaug selected to meet Valley City.

Mar. 31.—The local editors meet at Mr. Reed's.—Pres. Weld goes to Wheaton.

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