

Prof. Tisdall

The Campus

A Weekly Journal

COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Vol. IV.

APRIL 28, 1909.

No. 9

Reduction of the College Course.



SIMULTANEOUS movements aiming at the reduction of our college course have been started both among the alumni and the faculty. A committee of the City College Club, which was appointed to investigate the feasibility of reducing the four year's course, will make its report to-night before the society. At the same time, Professor Baskerville has introduced a measure in the faculty, by which it will be possible to obtain a degree in three years and one-half of steady work or in four years—the last year being divided between collegiate and professional or business work.

The City College Club Committee, of which Dr. Benjamin Briggs, '61, is Chairman, calls attention in its report to the drawbacks of the present four-year college course. It is pointed out that the addition of a year in the elementary schools, the increased requirements of the secondary schools and finally the lengthening of professional courses place an increased burden on the student. The total number of years preparation required for a professional degree thus becomes very great—much greater than the time necessary for a like degree in European countries. In Germany, for example, the total time spent in preparing for the medical degree, from the elementary school through the university, is seventeen years, while in America this takes a period of twenty years. The committee believes that this comparison shows an educational waste in the college. It cites the statement of President Butler, who maintains that, after a certain point, the prolongation of a course of study results in apathy.

The committee next compares the entrance and collegiate requirements of the College of the City of New York with those of Columbia and Harvard.

Comparisons. From a careful examination of the counts required, it concludes that our preparatory course is equal, in ground covered, to that of Columbia, although it is somewhat less rigid than that of Harvard. Our collegiate course, on the other hand, is superior to Columbia's and contains much more than that of Harvard. If the City College course were to be cut to three years, it would still be on a par with both of these institutions.

Although the committee favors an outright three-year course, still it recognizes that such an innovation cannot be easily brought about, and it therefore

Committee's Recommendations. recommends certain preliminary steps in that direction. These are, first, the assignment of extra credits for superior scholarship, which credits may cover part of the

requirements for graduation; secondly, the amalgamation of the fourth year with the first year in a professional school; third, the granting of facilities to students for making up the regular requirement in three years by extra work, during each term and summer. By this system those students who will ultimately study a profession will be obliged to attend college for only three years, while exceptionally able students who do not enter a professional school will also be permitted to obtain their degree in three years, provided that they succeed in obtaining the required number of counts.

PROFESSOR BASKERVILLE'S PLAN.

The plan worked out by Professor Baskerville differs in some respects from the City College Club plan, and its slightly more radical nature bids fair to solve permanently all the problems connected with the evils of the present four-year course as well as those of a straight three-year course. It is the aim of his system to adapt the college course to the needs of each individual student. This plan provides: first, for a reduction of the number of requisite collegiate counts to a figure more nearly as low as that of other colleges; second, that with the approval of the Dean, able students be per-

mitted to take a limited number of extra counts during the first three years, so that but a few counts remain to be acquired during the last year. These few counts may be earned, either during a single term, in which case the degree will be granted after three and one-half years of college work, or they may be spread over a whole year while the student is taking courses in a professional school or doing any other kind of outside work. For those who find it necessary to do outside work during their whole college career the curriculum would adjust itself so that these students would be given four, five or even six years to obtain their degree.

Such an adjustment of the course would therefore operate to satisfy the needs of each particular student; it would allow the ambitious to forge ahead of the non-ambitious; it would result in perfect elasticity. Incidentally, such a system might obviate the necessity for February graduations, as these students could be given their degree in either three and one-half or four and one-half years, according to their ability.

Something Worth While

A rare opportunity is afforded the students to witness a fine experiment in the Doremus Lecture Theatre, this Friday at 3 P. M. Mr. E. A. Miller, President of the Acetyline Welding Company, will give a demonstration of "Antagenous Welding."

The Newman Club of the College held its annual dance in Ellsmere Hall on the evening of Friday, April 16th. The affair was liberally patronized by the wives and daughters of our faculty members as well as by the Faculty itself. Probably the last lecture of the season conducted under the auspices of the Club was delivered last Friday night. Rev. Father O'Rourke spoke on "The Catholic Church, the Bulwark of the Republic."

In the April number of the "Chemical and Metallurgical Industry," Dr. Leo Gutman, of the Department of Chemistry, has an article on "The Physical and Electro-Chemical Laboratories at the City College."

Night College Established.

As forecast several months ago in THE CAMPUS, the Board of Trustees has finally voted to institute night courses and the Freshman Class of our Night College will start work next September. The announcement will be hailed with enthusiasm by many male adults in this city who are anxious to secure the collegiate instruction which we so freely offer the youth of our city, but who have leisure for it only at night. The details of management, the personnel of the instructing corps, and the length of the courses are matters as yet undecided but definite information will appear in these columns as soon as available.

"Love Feast."

Be not alarmed. This is not a robeless dance. It is not even a painting *à la* Salome. It is only a banquet to be held under the joint auspices of the classes of '11 and '12. The affair, which will probably come off on May 15, is going to be one of those bury-the-hatchet, forget-the-past, kiss-and-make-up sort of dinners. The menu is to be replete with goodies; the souvenirs alone will be worth coming for.

Last Tuesday Mr. Weill delivered an illustrated lecture on "The French Theatre" at the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

Chiefs of the Scribes.

At the annual business meeting of the Alumni Class Secretaries Association, held last Thursday evening, the following officers were elected: President, Prof. Gustave Le Gras, '79; Vice-President, Hugo S. Mack, '77; Secretary, John S. Roberts, '95; Treasurer, John C. Hume, '80; Historian, Prof. Charles F. Horne, '89. The association also approved of the plan of having class reunions on Commencement Day, as well as a general social meeting of the alumni on the day after. It was moreover decided to hold the next annual dinner of the Association at the College Rectory next December.

Dramatic Club.

Realizing the need of a permanent all-class Dramatic Club in this institution, and animated by a desire to enhance the reputation of our Alma Mater in the field histrionic, a representative number of undergrads (the majority of them seniors) have undertaken to organize such a society. At a meeting held on the 2d inst. a temporary organization was formed as a first step in that direction. Mr. W. C. Allen was elected chairman and Mr. J. Hoffmann secretary. A constitution committee is busily engaged in preparing a document which will be suitable as a working basis and which also will make provisions for the admission of new members. Mr. Friedburg of the Department of Public Speaking is devoting considerable time to the work of organization, and his wide acquaintance with dramatic activities at other colleges renders his assistance of great value at this time. The society is indebted to Professor Palmer for his enthusiastic support.

To day at 1 P. M.

Prof. M. A. Bigelow, Secretary of the American Nature Study Association, will speak in Room 315. All are urged to attend.

One of the most interesting features of the Charter Day Celebration will be the presentation to the College by Hamilton Post, G. A. R., of a silk national emblem.

Microcosm.

Affairs Microcosmic are progressing favorably and we are informed on good authority that the "Mike" may be expected early in May. The Board consists of the following: Ira I. Kaplan, Editor; S. Weiser, M. Judelsohn, R. Stand, Assistant Editors; Thuisco A. Lefkovics, Business Manager; N. N. Sanders, B. Light, Assistant Business Managers. The Student Council is represented on the Board by Messrs. Walter Krumwiede and Alfred J. Silberstein; while Professors Clark and Duggan have been chosen Faculty Representatives. The price of the book is to be \$1.00.

ATHLETICS.

Baseball.

C. C. N. Y., 2; Rensselaer "Poly," 10.

Troy, N. Y., April 24—Somewhat tired by their long trip, the college found itself up against a hard proposition this afternoon in the form of the Rensselaer "Poly" nine. The Trojans went right at it in the first inning, and tallied two runs before a man was out. The support accorded Brown was anything but encouraging. Dub at shortstop made a number of costly fumbles and wild throws. Polley hit to deep center for a home run in the ninth, while C. C. N. Y.'s other run resulted from a muffed fly in the seventh. Inglis of basketball fame and Kafka played sensational ball for the institute men.

The score by innings:

C. C. N. Y.	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1—2
R. P. I.	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	3	x—10

C. C. N. Y., 4; Seton Hall, 5.

The cry of "unfair umpiring" seems most frequent nowadays, and, curious to say, is justified in almost every case. It certainly was justified last Thursday in our game with Seton Hall "over on the Jersey side." One of the local students officiated and it seems miraculous that the college managed to squeeze in four runs in spite of him. In the fifth inning he called a ball fair which was hit at least ten feet outside of the base line and thus let in two runs for our opponents. Seton Hall was clearly outplayed and they have the umpire to thank for their victory. The feature of the game was the pitching of De Luca. Twice with men on bases and one out, he pulled himself out of the hole by striking out the next two batters. Ettinger played a snappy game at the second sack and Raggi did good work in the field. The entire team's defensive work was splendid.

Our Relay at Penn.

The fastest relay team ever sent out by the college captured third place last Saturday in the Relay Carnival at Franklin Field. Pratt Institute, the winner of the event, broke the event by $3\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. The University of Maryland just managed to take second place from the college. Dolan, who ran in second place, made the race of his life. Weber, Dolan, Groggins and Coyle each received a silver cup.



Dave Perlman, '10, has been elected captain of the basketball team next season. Perlman was captain of the 1907-8 team and, in view of this and his splendid work last season, his election is particularly gratifying.



Although it is still uncertain whether our dual meet with Pratt will take place next Saturday, the track men are hard at work on the Terrace cinder path. The weather is ideal for outdoor training and the team is in fine fettle.



The tennis club is up and doing. The team has been picked, the schedule has been arranged and the first match (with Columbia) has already been played. Undiscouraged by their defeat at Morningside, the team is getting into shape for its contest with Pratt on May 8. Pike and Merryman are showing particularly good form and will probably wield the racquet for the college against the Brooklyn boys.

An Athletic Secretary.

Our new Secretary of the Faculty captured the title "Oberkegler" in the Bowling Contest held a week ago yesterday. In a series of three games Professor Reynolds rolled a gross score of 547; Mr. Neuss was second with 543 (scratch); Professor Clark scored 533; and Dr. Cosenza 524. The meet score gave Mr. Neuss first place; Professor Rupp and Registrar Anderson tied for second; and Professor Reynolds third. Dr. Guthrie officiated as referee.

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Rules In Re Absences.

At a meeting of the Faculty held on the 15th inst. the By-Laws were modified in the following manner.

Article IV. Section 2. For every absence incurred by a student during a term in any subject, he is required to state the reason within three days to the Secretary of the Executive Council. Frequent or continued absence without satisfactory excuse will be treated, according to the circumstances of the case, by debarment from a subject, by suspension or by removal of the student's name from the rolls of the College.

Section 3. Students late for any College period may be excluded from the room and marked absent; if admitted, they are to be recorded as late. For such lateness reasons must be presented, as required for absences under section 2.

Section 5. A student who is absent for any cause shall lose his daily term average for each College period in which such absence occurs. Marks lost by absence may, on the recommendation of the Instructor and on endorsement of the Executive Council, be allowed by the Committee on Course and Standing to those students whose term average in the subject is not less than 80%.

The resolution relative to debarment for absence during the last two weeks of the term was repealed.

Section 2, 3 and 5 of Article 4 will not go into effect until next September. The Resolution relative to absences incurred in the last fortnight, however, goes into effect immediately.

For Samuel Elkins, '01.

An appeal is again made to the students and members of the Faculty in behalf of one of our graduates who was obliged to resign his position as a teacher, as a blindness which had been growing upon him steadily became too acute. Instead of subscribing for periodicals or buying books through the regular channels, you are requested to place your orders with Dr. Neuman, who will convey them to our afflicted alumnus.

Next Fall, the Department of Drawing will offer an advanced course in mechanical drawing.

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Talk on Northfield.

Last Thursday afternoon Mr. Roger B. Hull, '07 of Yale and now a student of law at Harvard, gave a very interesting talk on the Northfield Student Conference. Mr. Hull illustrated his address with a number of stereoptican views representing different phases of the annual conventions of college men at Northfield. Mr. Hull's graphic description was in the nature of an eye-opener and a number expressed their intention of representing the College at the next Conference which is to be held in the early part of July.

The Y. M. C. A. takes this opportunity to express its appreciation of Professor Sickles' kindness in granting the use of his lecture room and lantern for the meeting.

The Senior Class has petitioned the Faculty to end its recitations on May 28. Such an arrangement would give the prospective graduates an opportunity to spend a few social weeks with each other at college before parting to go on their several paths in the world. This petition has been ratified by the Student Council.

As a means of financing the projects which the Student council has in view, it was decided to impose a tax of \$2.00 per term on each of the eight college classes. This money is to come in the form of appropriations by the class organizations.



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Lectures by the Faculty.

The few remaining Board of Education lectures which terminate on April 30, include the following:

Thursday, April 29.

Dr. Frederick B. Robinson—"Henry Ward Beecher"—
P. S. 137, Saratoga Ave., Brooklyn.

Friday, April 30.

Dr. Hugo B. Lowther—"Herculaneum and Pompeii"—
Brooklyn Public Library, South Branch.

The publication is announced of Dr. Myron O. Tripp's thesis on "Groups of the Order $P^3 Q^2$," which he had prepared for his doctor's degree at Columbia University.

The United States Government has appointed Prof. Charles Baskerville official representative from this country to the Seventh International Congress of Applied Chemistry, to be held at London on May 27.

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T. H. H. NEWS.

FRED S. BAILEY, Correspondent.

Baseball.

T. H. H., 16; Annex, 0.

The ambitions of our young baseball enthusiasts from downtown were somewhat dampened last Saturday at Macomb's Dam Park as a result of their encounter with the regular Townsend Harris team. In spite of the seemingly disastrous score, the youngsters put up a good quality of ball and should make some future stars. "Doc" Newton did the twirling and had a comparatively easy time of it. It was an interesting contest and we should like to see another game arranged.

T. H. H., 5; Poly "Prep.," 9.

On April 22 our nine journeyed to Brooklyn to cross bats with Poly "Prep." With this school's great reputation before our eyes, we looked forward to the contest with not a few qualms. Had it not been for this nervousness our boys might have captured the game. Although the score does not indicate it, our fellows put up a fine specimen of ball; we are rather weak at the bat, but in the field we have a championship team. Risley, Adams, Fleck and Nagle excel in batting and with practice, it is hoped that the rest of the team will brace up a little in the hitting department. Poly played a loose fielding game, seven errors being marked up against them as opposed to three for our men. We won't mention the umpire, or a cry that will "rent the firmament" will arise, "That's what they all say!" Let it suffice to say that the umpire was Poly's coach. Densing and Mullen pitched good ball.

The score by innings:

T. H. H.	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	0-5
Poly	1	0	3	0	0	5	0	0	x-9

Around the Track.

Enthusiasm has been greatly renewed by the construction of an outdoor track, and everyone is training hard for the many meets in view, particularly the "Champs," which take place on May 29. Although there are good men in the squad, more are needed. Besides Wright and Storey, there is not another distance man. We are practically the only school that has no big men on the track team. We can never hope to win point trophies with the few good runners we have. Then, for the honor of the school and also for your own advantage, *come out for the team.*



If anyone would like to see the fellows work, come and see Mr. Schutt put them through their paces.

Lacrosse.

With only eight men of the Lacrosse team in the game, we put up a strong fight against a losing game with the Columbia Freshmen (score 4-0). Of course Waters put up a fine game, while our new man Mayer, shows prospects of becoming a star player. The game was exceptionally rough, but otherwise a good exhibition of Lacrosse. Captain Smith was greatly missed, although Betsch, in taking his place, played well for a beginner.



The Tennis team may be seen practicing every day at the courts at Ninety-second Street and West End Avenue.

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