

# The Campus

A Weekly Journal

THE COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Vol. VI.

FEBRUARY 16, 1910.

No. 2

A Holiday for the Lusty Infant.



**I**TALIAN, the youngest of the brood of languages to be cultivated in these halls of learning, is about to enjoy the same honor of public reception that was accorded her older sisters, French and German, last year. Next Monday will be Italian Day. Exercises will be held in the Great Hall at 2 o'clock. Baron Des Planches, the retiring Italian ambassador, William Dean Howells, the foremost living American author, and Henry Smith Pritchett, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will be the guests of honor. One of the best Italian singers now in this country will render a solo. In addition there will probably be a declamation in Italian by one of our students.

We are obliged to make a request that should really be unnecessary, but which the experience of the past year has shown to be required. When we consider the effort expended by the college authorities in securing men of world wide prominence to make addresses, all for the benefit of the students, it is truly mortifying to note how small an audience assembles in the Great Hall on the day of the event. At the occasion of the German Ambassador's visit, in particular, the student attendance was almost vanishingly small. The quality of our student body will be on trial this Monday afternoon; what will you do to maintain its reputation?

The City College *Quarterly* for December has appeared. It contains an article by Professor Johnston on the historical museum, a reprint of President Finley's article on "The College of the City" from *Van Norden's*, and an account of the work that is being done by our Public Speaking Department.

## Prize Essays.

"England and the United States: Present Resemblances and Contrasts, Political and Social" is the subject announced for the Rigg's Prize competition this year. All seniors and juniors may compete and the essays must be submitted to Professor Mott by May 27th. The Kelly critique, open to members of Clionia and Phrenocosmia, is on the topic—"The Poetry of Richard Watson Gilder."

All competitors for the James Gordon Bennet Prize in Political Science must present their papers to Professor Clark by May 10. The subject is "Initiative and Referendum," and the competition is open to seniors.

On Friday afternoon, Dr. Norris A. Brisco F. R. H. S. gave a lecture to the Waring Civic Club at P. S. 34 on "The English Constitution."

## Your Suggestion Wanted.

The Students Council Committee on Lunch Room Conditions is anxious to hear the complaints of individual students concerning the lunch room, and their suggestions for the improvement of the same. You are therefore asked to write out your opinion and place same in a box in the concourse set up for that purpose. Be sincere in your demands and sign your letter with your name and section.

## Old Debts.

Preparations for the performance of the anxiously expected Elizabethan play are progressing, and judging from the optimism of Dr. Taaffe, the coach, the production will be an unparalleled success. The play that has been chosen is Massinger's *A New Way to Pay Old Debts*. Dr. Tynan has drawn up plans for a stage exactly of the kind used in the sixteenth century. This touch of realism cannot help but heighten the effect of the quaint, old piece.

## The Coming College Play.

"The Heir at Law" is the play which will be performed under the auspices of the College Dramatic Society at Berkley Lyceum on the evening of April 9th. Final trials to choose members of the cast were held last Monday. Rehearsals under the direction of Mr. Victor O. Freeburg are now progressing regularly.

### To-day at 1:30 P. M.

Lectures on economic and civic topics by men of authority are being arranged by Professor Clark for unoccupied Wednesday afternoon hours. Those who had the good fortune of hearing the first of these addresses—that delivered by ex-Mayor Seth Low—will no doubt await succeeding lectures with eagerness. This afternoon at 1:30 P. M., Dr. Peter Robert will speak on "Immigration." The lecture will close at 2:15 P. M. sharp, giving students time to pass to their classes. Among those who are to speak in the near future are Mr. W. W. Finley, president of the Southern Railway and Dr. Milo R. Maltbie, public service commissioner for this district.

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### Class Election.

Now is the time for our local body politic to become active. Election committees have been appointed in all the classes and nominations for the several offices are already being returned. A number of the classes have adopted the scheme of taxing each candidate for office a nominal fee so that the class treasury may not unnecessarily suffer depletion due to the expense involved in the printing of ballots.

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### A Valuable Gift.

The Carl H. Schultz Mineral Water Company has presented a valuable and most interesting gift to the Chemistry Department Museum. It consists of a large glass case, made up especially for us, which contains a full exhibit illustrating the complete manufacture of the various mineral waters.

A complete set of glycerine and shellac samples was presented lately to the same museum by the Wolf and Rowley Company.

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### Graduation Honors.

Louis Mayers and Thuisco A. Lefkovichs have been awarded fellowships. These graduates and Joseph J. Jablonower have been elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity. The following alumni of former years have also been chosen to Phi Beta Kappa—Raymond H. Howland, '63, Alrick H. Man, '77, C. Straubenmueller, '80, William T. Gibb, '83, and Harry Urdang, '09.

### Dr. Wiley Again.

The new course in *Municipal Chemistry* which received so much heralding in the city press and professional journals, has commenced and by this time is fairly under way. The introductory lecture upon *Sanitation* was delivered by Professor Baskerville. Then followed last week, the lectures by Dr. William P. Mason of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute upon the subject of *Water*, its relations to disease, its sources for municipal supply and its purification. Yesterday's discussion of the *Milk* question by our former Health Commissioner, Dr. Darlington, proved most instructive and interesting. This Friday and Saturday afternoons, Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, who has interested us a number of times in the past, will lecture on his favorite subject, namely, *Food Adulteration*, its purpose, method, extent, its remedy and the relation of chemistry thereto. Those students desiring seats at these lectures should make application to the authorities of the Chemistry Department. Admission is by card only, as the seats are reserved.

### Chemical Society.

With the assured assistance and support of the Department of Chemistry, a number of students have recently organized the *Chemical Society*. Membership is restricted to Juniors and Seniors who are taking elective courses in chemistry. A meeting will be held this afternoon at 1.20 P. M. in the Chemistry Building, Room 204. All who are interested are cordially invited to be present.

### Sunday Afternoons.

One of the most potent means of familiarizing the citizens of the city with our institution, is the Sunday afternoon Organ Recital given by Professor Baldwin. It is gratifying to observe the growing numbers that throng the Great Hall weekly. The seating capacity of the Hall is hardly large enough to accommodate all who come. And the fact is that Professor Baldwin's playing has created a standard which has been and is being recognized in the city and in musical circles. Professor Baldwin's recital of Wagner's works was exceptionally well received. The Wednesday programs are given as heretofore.

In the February *Review of Reviews* there appears an article by Professor Clark on the timely subject "Cost of Living."

Rochester 18—C. C. N. Y. 14.

Commerce 15—Freshmen 7.

In the last minute and a half one of the fastest and most exciting games ever played by a College Basketball team, Harmon of Rochester, reputed to be the best player in the country, scored one field and two foul goals, and thus brought about the defeat of the lavender and black. The score up to then had been 14 to 14. Both teams played star games: it should be said to the credit of Rochester that we have never played a cleaner and more honest team that we can remember. The score looked to be in their favor at the outset; but we spooned with them, getting closer and closer, until the first half ended 7 to 6 in the Up-Staters' favor. The second half was ours. Brill, our good old Brill, and "Barney" played together as if they were one; and when after two clean field goals, Sedransky shot the record breaker of the season from a distance of fully ~~the~~ quarters of the court, tying the score Brill kissed ~~him~~ honest he did! Friedman took a hand here and broke up one play after another. But Rochester's guarding was inimitable: we could get no such thing as a shot under the basket; we couldn't get beyond their Gibraltar. Poor Hess was put out of the game for making five fouls after playing an especially hard game. We need not at all be ashamed of our defeat, by the University of Rochester. True enough, we missed Perlman and Goldman, but then we had Brill. It should be remembered that our opponents have defeated U. of P., Yale, and most of the other big colleges. They are truly a championship team.

C. C. N. Y.—R. f., Sedransky; l. f., Brill; c., Heskowitz, Propper, Kaufman; l. g., Friedman; r. g., Propper, Kaufman.

U. of R.—R. f., Harmon; l. f., Woodams; c., Remaker; l. g., Cox; r. g., Edwards.

Goals from field: Sedransky (5), Harmon (4), Friedman, Woodams, Remaker.

Goals from foul: Harmon (6), Sedransky (2).

Referee: Lieutenant Stillwell, West Point.

Umpire: Deering, 71st Regiment.

*Preliminary Game:*

1913—R. f., Mackler, Sorren; l. f., Ellner; c., Goldstein, Mackler; l. g., Friedman, Isaacs; r. g., Mayer.

H. S. C.—R. f., Goldberg, Israel; l. f., Whyte, Maccaconi; c., Leslie; l. g., Schulman; r. g., Archibald.

Goals from field: Goldberg (3), Leslie (2), Ellner, Mackler, Sorren, Archibald.

Goals from foul: Archibald (3), Ellner.

Referee: Smith, P. S. A. L.

### Intercollegiate Competitions.

Acting Manager Judelsohn of the Track Team has done some real work in the last few days and the following tentative program has been planned: On February 23rd, we intend entering five men in the individual runs at the Open Olympic Games of the 22nd Regiment at their armory, B'way and 68th St. The men and the events are as follows: Groginsky and Tom Dolan in the 400 metres run; Joe Dolan in the 800 metres run; and Reichard in the 1500 metres run. Passloff will run in the 440 novice at the games of Fordham University on Feb. 26th.

At the annual games of the Mohawk A. C. at the 22nd Regiment Armory on March 5, we expect to enter two teams in the one mile relay race open to Colleges in New York City.

On March 12, Columbia will hold its tenth annual indoor relay carnival at Madison Square Garden. We will in most probabilities be represented by teams in both the one and the two mile intercollegiate relays.

At the Intercollegiate Relay Race Carnival of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia on April 30th we are booked to run off with four gold watches and a silk banner for a one-mile relay against such teams as Maryland Agricultural College, Franklin and Marshall, St. John's of Annapolis, and Indiana State Normal.

We are in the possession of a little prize package: Scholkaw, a former member of Boys H. S. champion one mile relay team has entered College and will soon, no doubt, be wearing the C. C. N. Y. T. T.

It has developed, to our unutterable satisfaction, that all the men of the track team, as well as the ineligible candidates of the last semester, are now eligible. New candidates are wanted for varsity and class teams. Show up.

### 1911 Medley.

Athletic Manager Bischoff of the Upper Junior Class has evolved a novelty in the guise of a medley relay. There are to be four teams, each consisting of eight contestants who will run various distances ranging all the way from twenty-two laps on our Gym track to one lap. The affair is to take place in the near future, and the '11 class are in a fair way to run off an event that will be record-breaking in the degree of its success. The members of the class are urged to respond to the call for a fifth competing octette.

### Gyrating Gymnasts.

Our Brahman wonder, the inimitable Pushomar Bladkumkhar has sprung a surprise on us. He has had brought to this country for his own express purpose, an Indian piece of apparatus, hitherto unheard of and never seen in America. The apparatus is a long pole on which the performer twists and turns into all sorts of contortions. We are informed that the feats are most difficult and will be the feature of the dual meet against U. of P. on March 5th. "Bush" has made a success of the stunts on this pole in Bombay, India, and we'll see what success he has in New York.

Having been admitted into the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Gymnasts of America, our ambitious manager made a bid to hold the Intercollegiate Championships at our Gym. But Ward of Princeton representing Manager Prescott outbid our "A. G.," and we'll have to forego that honor. But—don't miss the fifth of March.

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### New York vs. Brooklyn.

The next basketball game of the season will take place on Washington's Birthday, Tuesday, February 22, in our Gym. Our opponents will then be the strong quintet of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. The Freshmen will line up against the team that ended second in the High School Basketball League, Newtown High School. Don't miss these games; they'll be corkers.

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### Track Honors.

On Saturday evening, February 5th, our relay team took fifth place in the games of the Irish-American A. C. But the calamity was overshadowed by the distinguished work done by our Mercurial phenomenon Joe Dolan '12. In the 880 yard novice, Dolan touched the tape in 2 minutes, 10  $\frac{2}{5}$  seconds, taking first place by several seconds. His prize was a beautiful 14 Karat Gold Stop Watch whose value looms dangerously near the one hundred dollar mark. Our representatives were introduced to one of the officials, who chanced to be a C. C. N. Y. grad. of the class of '98, a Mr. Wagner by name, now New York State Senator, but boasting much more of the distinction of having been the captain of C. C. N. Y. football and baseball teams of that year.

# The Campus

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A Suggestive Gift.



LITERALLY speaking, we may say that light shines in upon the deliberations of the faculty through Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, for by a recent gift of the Class of 1878, paintings of these early philosophers now adorn the windows of the council room in beautiful stained glass. The windows are however, of more than æsthetic importance. In the first place, we are told (still speaking literally) that the unmitigated light, shining through the colorless glass windows, has heretofore been a menace to the eyesight of many of the professors. The light is now softened by the painting, enabling clear and untroubled vision. But may we not suggest that the artistic windows of the council room have an analogous significance on a *higher* plane? May we not hope that the spiritual light will also shine henceforth through the medium of the great philosophers of the past—protecting the “mind’s eye” of the faculty from the meteor-like blaze of momentary fads and fancies?

At the present time, there is in vogue at the College, a system, which we can explain only by the fact that a similar practice obtains at other institutions. We refer



to the lecture method of instruction, which is evidently coming into greater prominence at our College as the years go by. Inquiry has not revealed to us the supposed benefits of this system. We can appreciate the necessity of lectures in post-graduate education, where the subject matter is of such an advanced character that satisfactory text-books are not available. In such work, lectures by great authorities are of course inevitable. But in collegiate teaching, it seems to us that the text-book and discussion method is far superior. Two considerations stand out before all others impelling us to take this view.

In the first place, it stands to reason that better understanding of subject matter will result by the study of a text. If something in a book is not perfectly clear upon first reading, continued application will usually remove the difficulty. On the contrary, if something explained in a lecture is not completely understood at the moment, it is doomed never to be understood. The mind of the listener must follow that of the lecturer unremittingly. Speed of study should be adjusted according to the difficulty experienced by each individual student. This is of course impossible in a lecture method. We are certain, that if it were possible to find out the exact proportion existing between the amount of matter given by the lecturer and the amount understood by his hearers, the result would be disappointingly astounding.

We now beg to consider, how much more profitably the lecture hour might be spent under the text-book system. We have but to point to the courses that are still free from lectures to illustrate the difference. Explanation of the difficulties encountered in the text and elaboration and correlation by the instructor, are of undisputed value. And of supreme importance, is the opportunity afforded for general discussion. With earnest college students, discussion in the classroom is a most effective method of teaching, in that it arouses the "self-activity" of the student (which we hear so much of nowadays) as opposed to the utter "passivity" induced by the lecture method.

As the faculty sit before those impressive stained glass windows, may they "see their light" through the medium Socrates, who twenty-five hundred years ago invented a method of instruction that took full cognizance of the shortcomings of the lecture system.

## Book Reviews.

Professor Baskerville's book *General Inorganic Chemistry* recently published and in use at our institution for more than a year, has received considerable attention in the various professional periodicals. For example, Professor Norris, an eminent reviewer, says in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*. "The book is strikingly original. \* \* A student who has mastered its contents will know more facts of inorganic chemistry, than can be learned by a study of books twice its size."

The *Mettallurgical and Chemical Engineering* says of it: " \* \* It is radical and inspiring."

The *History of Chemistry*, published in last October by Mr. Hamor, Professor Baskerville's private laboratory assistant, has run out of an edition of 40,000 volumes and a second edition revised and enlarged, is about to appear.

## Echoes of Rip Van Vinkle.

At the first meeting of the Faculty Bowling Club this year, three members bowled over the grand total of 200. Professor Clark again came to the front with the score of 223 and Professor Rupp and Mr. Neus followed with the scores of 211 and 208 respectively.

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## EVENING SESSION.

NORMAN O. JACK, Editor.

### Guthrie Club Challenges Day Students.

The most active of all the societies of the Evening Session students, is the political and civic debating society known as the Guthrie Club. Meetings are held every week at which a debate on some interesting topic constitutes the most important feature of the programme. Prominent men will probably be secured to address the society in the near future. The members of the club take this opportunity of challenging to a debate the literary societies of the day students. Communications may be addressed to the Secretary of the club in the care of Professor Duggan. The newly elected officers of the society are as follows:— President, Thomas J. Mooney; Vice-President, Roland A. Davison; and Secretary, J. Appatow.

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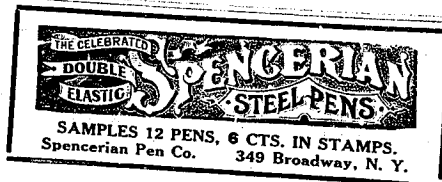
With the auditorium thronged to the doors last Thursday evening the closing exercises of the academic A class were held. The address of welcome, delivered by class President Salotaroff, was followed by the customary representative declamations in Greek, Latin, German, and Spanish by M. Cohn, M. Perlman, H. Walker, and J. Katz, respectively. The most interesting numbers on the program were two plays rendered in costume by the students. One was given in French from Moliere's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* and the other consisted of two scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The acting was excellent and the success of the performances is commendatory of the coaching of Dr. Weill and Dr. Moore of the first, and of Dr. Taffe of the second. With the welcoming of "1914" into the College by President Finley, the exercises closed.

## *A Banquet.*

On the evening previous to their closing exercises, the graduating class partook of a gala banquet at *Reisenweber's*. In this respect, the young collegians have set an example which will doubtless be emulated by many, if not all of the coming classes. The affair was most enjoyable and it is pleasureable to record that the department of the fêters was flawless. In an adjoining room, the 71st Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y. were holding a reunion and late in the evening the doors were thrown open and the two companies exchanged hearty cheers.

## For A T. H. H. Library.

Following the very thoughtful and admirable precedent set by the class of June 1909 (T. H. H.), the present graduation class has made a liberal donation toward the establishment of a reading and reference library. This attitude of the students, it will be hoped, will meet with the hearty approval of the faculty, and with the continuation of such well directed support, Harris will soon be able to boast of a library of its own.



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