

Haverford News

(FORMERLY COLLEGE WEEKLY)

VOLUME VI.

Haverford, Pa., February 23, 1914

NUMBER 2

ROBERT UNDERWOOD JOHNSON LECTURES

"POETRY AND AMERICAN LIFE"

On Friday evening, Robert Underwood Johnson, late editor of the Century Magazine, delivered the first Thomas Shipley lecture, in Roberts Hall. His subject was "Poetry and American Life". Mr. Johnson, who is the father of Owen Johnson, the novelist, treated his subject in a scholarly manner, punctuated frequently by bright flashes of wit.

The present condition of American poetry is encouraging, the lecturer asserted, but as Whitman wrote, it is a poetry of great average and not of great individual merit. Much poetry is read, and every family has an opportunity to appreciate and read the best verse. This has been made possible by the increasing circulation of the works of American poets. Also a greater supply of good anthologies of poetry, and the use of high class poetry in the magazines, and even the newspapers, have aided in this spread of the appreciation of verse.

At this point in his lecture, Mr. Johnson decried the absence in the colleges of a spirited enthusiasm for verse-writing. The cause of this, he said, may be traced, in part, to the decline of classical study, and the substitution of the matter of fact Latin language for the rich poetical Greek and the tendency towards vocational training.

There are many serious obstacles to the existence of high class poetry in this country. These may be summed up in the saying that Americans are the "most humorous" and also the "most prosaic" people in the world. Their love of humor leads them to indulge too much in the comic element which is the "antithesis of all art." Their prosaic outlook upon life is due to the commercial spirit prevalent everywhere. It causes too much emphasis to be placed on literalness and realism, both of which tend to stifle the emotions which are so necessary in poetic expression.

A reaction against these tendencies is necessary, the lecturer declared, if American poetry is to continue to uphold its place in the future. What is needed, is a bracing up of standards by those who can create them, and the free exercise of the imagination in our ordinary life.

Mr. Johnson finished with an eloquent appeal for the wider study of poetry, for, as he aptly expressed it, "One who has learned to love an art can never be unhappy."

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY MEETING

DR. RITTENHOUSE SPEAKS ON THE PANAMA CANAL

Tuesday evening, Dr. Rittenhouse gave an interesting talk on the Panama Canal, and showed some good slides.

The direction of the Canal is northwest to southeast, the Pacific end being east of the Atlantic. The two oceans have been connected before, as can be told by a study of their fishes and mollusks. The distance from shore-line to shore-line is forty miles. A steamer entering from the Atlantic is lifted eighty-five feet to Gatun Lake thence through Culebra Cut to Pedro Miguel, then through Miraflores Lake, down the Miraflores Locks, and into the Pacific. The minimum width is three hundred feet for five miles through Culebra Cut. With a sea-level canal there would have been a minimum width of one hundred and fifty feet for twenty miles.

Another disadvantage of a sea-level canal is that the tide rises twenty-two feet in the Pacific and only two feet in the Atlantic.

Pictures of Culebra Cut were shown, and the effect of landslips was clearly visible. One of these slips moved fourteen feet one inch in twenty-four hours and blocked traffic for a week.

The Canal was begun in 1901. The battleship Oregon's trip around South America had a great deal to do with the government taking up the work.

An Alumnus Writes

Editor of the Haverford News:

It was with great regret that I read in the "Press" the other day that there was some talk of Haverford giving up her place in the Intercollegiate Soccer League. I trust that such a foolish step will not be taken. If we are going to retire from the League because we think we might be beaten it is a quitter's trick and not worthy of Haverford or what we are trying to stand for in sport. The mere fact that there are some men who play rugby that might be needed in soccer and who would not be available for the latter sport if the seasons conflicted, is no reason for giving up soccer. . . . Haverford started Intercollegiate soccer and played the first Intercollegiate game in that sport ever played in America. We cannot afford to give up without a struggle. . . .

(Signed) S. J. GUMMERE.

Several of the track men went in to Penn for practice again during the past week.

Y. M. C. A.

MR. D. S. HANCHETT GIVES AN INSPIRING TALK

Mr. Hanchett who is now at the Pennsylvania Graduate School and President of the University of Pennsylvania Cosmopolitan Club, is a graduate of Wisconsin. While there he was secretary to Professor Reinsch, who is now our Ambassador to China. He is a young man who did things while in college, has continued to do things since he has been out and within the past year or so has felt the call to devote his life to missionary work. He was a delegate at the Kansas City Convention, and after making the statement that 1,500 Student Volunteers were present at this Convention he asked: "And why are they going to the foreign field?" There is need of missionary work everywhere and the person who is willing to do the will of Christ must be willing to go anywhere; the Christian cannot distinguish one part of the world from another. He then pointed out the fallacy that it is necessary for only the Christian worker to take up his profession in the spirit of prayer. Is not prayer equally necessary whatever profession a man may decide to enter? Mr. Hanchett's work in China will be in establishing Railroad Y. M. C. A.'s. It is estimated that in the next century China will build more railroads than any other nation in the world, and the Y. M. C. A. workers, realizing this, are making a prompt and practical start with the railroad men. The R. R. Y. M. C. A. is recognized by railroad employers as a great help to them because it makes their men more efficient and benefits them in social and educational ways. In closing, Mr. Hanchett emphasized three fundamental principles in Christian work: the spirit of co-operation, the spirit of prayer and the spirit of consecration to Christ.

Active, clear-thinking men like Mr. Hanchett should make us realize the breadth and nobleness of this work of evangelization.

Freshmen Mission Study

Nine members of the Class of 1917 gathered together by a roaring fire in the old Y. M. C. A. room last Thursday night and organized a Freshman Mission Study class. It will meet at 6.30 sharp every Friday night for the next eight weeks and break up promptly at 7 P. M. They will study Mott's "Decisive Hour of Christian Missions."

(Continued on page 3, column 3.)

Haverford-Swarthmore Concert

DUAL CONCERT TO BE SOCIAL FEATURE OF SEASON.

It will not be until next November that we meet our dearest enemies on the gridiron, but on March 17th the annual joint concert and general all-round songfest will give Haverford music lovers an unrivaled opportunity to show that in art as well as in mere brute strength we are Swarthmore's superiors. The arena will be the New Century Drawing Rooms, and the program, although not at present fully determined upon, will be one that will show the various departments of the "Cap and Bells" to the greatest possible advantage. Furthermore it has been arranged that after the concert has been successfully concluded a dance will take place at which we may learn more of our co-educational rivals. It is to be hoped that both the undergraduate body and the more weighty alumni will turn out in hordes for this occasion, as it will yield an excellent opportunity for that social intermingling which has at times been criticised as being a trifle lacking here at Haverford. The "Cap and Bells" is doing its best as always; the patroness' list is larger than ever; and if the concert is strongly supported this year it will go far to make for success in the future.

Work on the Play Begun

During the past week a call for candidates for the annual "Cap and Bells" play was made with the encouraging result of having some thirty candidates for the try-outs. The play decided upon is, "Engaged," a farcical comedy in three acts by W. S. Gilbert. The cast numbers eleven and the committee in charge announces that every candidate will have every possible opportunity to make good in the part he tries out for. Rehearsals will be held at least three times a week; probably on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Mr. Knowlton, who has been coaching the cast for several years, is at present ill and it has not been decided who will take his place. Three presentations of the play have been scheduled. The cast will begin with a tour to Baltimore where they will play on Saturday evening, April 18th., and where they will spend the following Sunday. Leaving Baltimore they will play at Wilmington on Monday 20th, and will close their schedule on May 2d, with the Junior Day production in Roberts Hall.

Haverford News

A Journal containing news of interest to Haverford College and its friends.

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FEBRUARY 23, 1914.

The Honor System

The discussions of the Honor System were carried on in the College Association in a sincere and thorough manner which was truly admirable. Although the situation was not as bad as it was thought to be, the student body realized the seriousness of such a question and endeavored to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. The present system is to remain with a few changes which aim not so much to make it possible to detect all cases of cheating—which all the present agitation has proven is possible under the system now in use—as it is to make it impossible for a Haverford student to think of cheating. In other words, to create such a high sense of honor that a student cannot remain long among us without feeling its influence. Cheating can be done under any system if the individual student wants to cheat. Is it not better then to emphasize every change which will tend to make it impossible for a student to cheat rather than to emphasize changes which will make it easier to detect cases and handle them after the cheating has been done? Both are, of course, essential to a perfect system: one that will not only handle cases that are brought up but also tend to prevent any cases coming up. Three changes have been proposed to help the present system attain the latter advantage: (1) To have some competent member of the Junior class explain the system to the incoming Freshman class and show them where Haverford stands on this question. (2) To have the Committees of Five elected by the class instead of appointed by the class president. (3) To make the penalties inflicted more severe—as suspension for several weeks in any case, or in an extreme case expulsion. And a suggestion that may help the above changes is that any student brought up on a charge of cheating shall at once lose any position of trust or responsibility in his class or in the college. The discussions

of the past week have had the effect of making us take the honor question more seriously than before, and the sense of honor of by far the majority of Haverford students is so strong that cheating should not again be heard of. Let those who have this sense of honor be men enough to show their disapproval of anything dishonorable and not look upon these questions with indifference because they are not personally involved.

College Association Meeting

The student body voted on Friday to retain the present honor system.

On Thursday a meeting of the College Association was held and the whole question earnestly and thoroughly discussed. Each class had adopted a resolution which embodied its views upon the situation, and these various resolutions were presented. The discussion centered around the proposed change set forth by the senior class.

Numerous speeches were made both in favor of the proposed change and the present system. Several minor changes were proposed to make the present system more efficient.

Music Study Club

At a meeting Wednesday evening, it was decided that the annual concert of the members should be held the latter part of March. It is very probable that the club will depart from its usual custom and charge admission. The profits will be devoted to the fund for the Preston Playground. The concert promises to be better than any the club has given in the past. An additional feature will be some classical trios or quartettes. After plans for the concert were discussed, Parker, '14, entertained the members in delightful fashion with several solos, and Taylor, '15, yielded to the general demand and sang "Aloha-oe," a Hawaiian song, with much feeling.

Calendar

Monday—"Cap and Bells" try-out, Roberts Hall, 6.30.

Tuesday—Glee Club Concert, Merion Cricket Club, 8.10. Upper Classmen's Mission Study, 6.30. Prepare ch. VII. Wrestling for football men at 8.00.

Wednesday—Lecture, Dr. Babbitt on "Some Modern Medical Statesmen" in Union, 8.00 P. M. Y. M. C. A., 6.30. F. H. Rindge, speaker. Civics Club Banquet.

Thursday—Wrestling for football men at 8.00.

Friday—Gym. Team Exhibition at Swarthmore. Freshman Mission Study, 6.30. Read ch. I.

Saturday—Soccer, Haverford vs. Merion first at Merion C. C.

At a Tea Meeting held at the Germantown Friends' Meeting on Monday, 16th, Professor Cadbury spoke on the Young Friends' Movement in America.

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Classical Society Meets

A meeting of the Classical Society was held at the home of Dr. Baker on Wednesday evening. Dr. R. M. Gummere acted as temporary chairman and carried on the election of officers for the year. Dr. Baker was unanimously elected president; Waples, first vice-president; Whipple, second vice-president, and Bye, secretary-treasurer. The question of membership was brought up and it was decided that all who were present should consider themselves as members. The discussion which followed as to the whereabouts of the constitution and last year's balance in the treasury, was fruitless, but one of the members was delegated to look into the matter. The program of the evening consisted of two papers: "A Comparison of the Greek Drama and the No Drama of Japan," by Gummere, '15, and "The Influence of Foreign Cults on Roman Religion," by Whipple, '15. Both papers showed the results of study and brought forth some enlightening discussion. Mr. Whipple attributed the fall of Rome largely to Greek influence as manifested in the Sybeline Books. This blow was too much for Dr. Baker and he was eloquent in his defense of the Greeks, while on the other hand the Romans found a loyal supporter in Dr. Gummere. The question however was suspended while we adjourned to the dining room where more serious matters occupied our minds. The meeting was a decided success and a motion was passed that meetings be held monthly during the remainder of this year.

Dr. Spiers' Class Popular

Dr. Spiers' class in French IV has become so popular that for the past week or so eight or ten ladies and gentlemen have attended this course in addition to the regular college students. Among the visitors last week were Dr. and Mrs. Reid. Dr. Spiers is giving a series of lectures on Rostand's "Chantecler," devoting his treatment to an explanation of the literary and linguistic beauties of the masterpiece. The lectures are given in French on Mondays, at 3 o'clock, in room No. 3 Chase Hall. Dr. Spiers extends an invitation to any friends of the college who wish to attend.

The Junior Tea

The members of the faculty and their wives gave the Junior class a most enjoyable afternoon on last Tuesday. The tea was held in the Union which lends itself admirably to such occasions and was made particularly festive by the strains of music from the Freshman Orchestra (fondly termed "The Rhinie-Band").

Faculty Notes

Dr. Spiers has been asked to serve on the Executive Board of the Modern Language Association of the Middle States and Maryland.

Dr. Kelsey recently delivered a short address at the banquet of the Conference of "The Associations of American Indians" held at the Hotel Walton.

We beg to correct the statement made in last week's issue that Dr. Watson is taking charge of Dr. Spiers' classes in his absence. It is Professor F. N. Maxfield, Haverford, '97, who is at present an instructor in Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania.

New England Alumni to Meet

The following communication has been received from M. H. March, secretary of the New England Alumni Association of Haverford College. The annual meeting and dinner will be held at Copley-Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass., on Saturday evening, March 7, 1914, at seven o'clock. You will receive full particulars regarding the meeting in a few days; but in the meantime the Executive Committee wish you to reserve this date.

The News Campaign

With last week's issue the "Haverford News" began a subscription campaign among the alumni and the friends of the college. It is our plan to continue this campaign for three weeks, sending out 2,000 copies each week. We feel that as the college newspaper is only entering upon its sixth year that there are a great number of the alumni who have never been given this opportunity to keep in touch with their college.

(Continued from page 1, column 3.)

They organized this class because they realized that:

1. The Christian western and the heathen eastern races are going to meet more and more as time goes on. In the light of past history and present prejudices this meeting will be a conflict worse than the world has ever witnessed, unless there is some force that can unify the West and East.
2. Christ's religion is the only unifying force able to solve this problem and mission work is the active crystallization of this force applied to the problem.
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Haverford and the Soccer League

In last week's issue we published a summary of the discussion which took place at the annual meeting of the Alumni Athletic Committee. Under the heading of soccer we reported that the probability of the Intercollegiate season being changed from spring to fall was the most serious question that came up. This same report, with a misleading heading, appeared in the Philadelphia papers and is what Mr. Gummere refers to in his letter which is printed below. That there is a probability of such a change is a fact which we have to face no matter how disagreeable, but that Haverford will have to withdraw from the League (although this was hinted at at the meeting), is not at all likely. If the change in season is made it will no doubt take a certain amount of interest away from soccer not only at Haverford but throughout Intercollegiate circles, because the fall is the season when football reigns supreme. Soccer at Haverford is too live a game at present and is growing too rapidly to be permanently influenced by any such change. The men who are needed in both sports are few and no uneasiness need be felt on that situation. We are thoroughly in accord with what Mr. Gummere has said in his letter. Haverford is not thinking about withdrawing from the League and will not withdraw.

Bennett Starts Wrestling

Coach Bennett was out to supper on last Tuesday and dined at a table composed of some of the likely candidates for next year's squad. After supper he met all the possible candidates and gave them a talk in which he advised them as to their preparation for next season. Bennett is a strong advocate of wrestling and boxing for keeping football men in condition during the off-season. Later in the evening he conducted an impromptu wrestling class in the gym. He showed the principal elementary holds and had some of the men try them. He is planning to conduct these classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and will be assisted by Dr. Babbitt.

Cricket Schedule

Manager Stokes announces the following schedule. Several of the dates are not definitely fixed but will probably be as here recorded.

April 18—Frankford..... here
 25—British-Americans..... here
 May 2—Merion C. C..... away
 9—Phila. C. C..... away
 13—Second 15..... here
 16—U. of P..... here
 21—U. of P..... Phila. C. C
 23—Interscholastics..... here
 30—New York Vets..... here
 June 6—U. of P..... Merion C. C.
 12—Alumni..... here

Toronto and McGill Universities are planning to send down teams sometime about the middle of June in which event Haverford will have several matches with them.

News Notes

New stacks which will accommodate approximately 90,000 volumes are being constructed in the stack room of the Library. This addition to the new building was presented anonymously to the college and is to be, when completed, a very fine piece of work, costing about \$6,500.

On Wednesday afternoon a squad of some twenty fellows armed with shovels and commanded by Dr. R. M. Gummere attacked the snow on the new soccer field. A considerable space was cleared away in front of one of the goals and this week the team can probably have regular out-of-door shooting practise.

A small pamphlet containing a brief account of the missionary life of Robert L. Simpkin, '03, has been distributed during the past month. In the opening lines it says that his work "has assumed such commanding proportions during the past two years that we feel that most Haverfordians will be interested in reading this brief account." And in closing it states: "This unassuming Haverfordian deserves the backing of the alumni and the friends of the college." An effort is being made to increase the "Simpkin Fund," and checks should be sent to J. P. Magill, treasurer of the "Simpkin Fund."

Moorestown called off the soccer game on Saturday on account of the condition of their field.

The class in Economics 1b. inspected the plant of the New York Shipbuilding Company at Camden, under the guidance of Professor Barrett.

Exhibition Meet at Swarthmore

On Friday, 27th Haverford's gymnasium team will give an exhibition at Swarthmore. Swarthmore is trying to arouse interest in getting up a "gym" team, and to help this purpose they invited the Haverford team over.

On account of the sickness of Captain Waples, the gymnasium team was unable to go to Brown. The date of the dual meet has been postponed until March 20th.

Haverford's team, except for the loss of two good club-swingers, Baker and Montgomery, is considerably stronger than it was last year. Waples and Taylor are both stars on the parallel bars and horizontal bar, and Latham and Waples excel on the rings. On the side-horse, Stokes, Latham and Votaw do good work, and in tumbling, Sharpless and A. Garrigues have strengthened the team. Haverford's schedule is as follows:

- February 27.—Exhibition meet at Swarthmore.
- March 6.—Dual meet with Columbia, at Haverford.
- March 13.—Dual meet with Pennsylvania, at Pennsylvania.
- March 20.—Postponed dual meet with Brown, at Providence.

News Notes

Albert C. Myers, of Moylan, Pa., an enterprising historian, has been spending the past week at the college. He is using the historical materials of the Library in preparing a book which aims to make a complete collection of the works of William Penn.

On Thursday afternoon Mrs. T. F. Branson gave a tea at her home to which a number of the students of the college were invited to meet some of the delegates to the Kansas City Convention. Nitobe, '15, gave a short talk on: "Missions, the Unifying Power of the East and West."

Three fellows are now enjoying the comforts of the Morris Infirmary and the care of Miss Hardwick, i. e., Helveston, Ellison and Leland. The latter has had quite a siege of several weeks. There have been about as many fellows in the Infirmary this year as last, but within the past two weeks there has been a slight increase. Miss Hardwick attributes this increase to the fact that many of the fellows come over for trivial reasons and characterizes the Infirmary as a "Nursery."

In order to keep the men in training Captain Elkinton has been having the soccer men use the track and practise shooting in the gym.

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