

NORMAL POINTIER



1904-5
JANUARY.

CONTENTS.

Literary	47
Censor	50
Alumni	51
Editorial	52
Art Department	53
Locals	54
Jolly Columns	55
Exchanges	56

Vol. X.

No. 4

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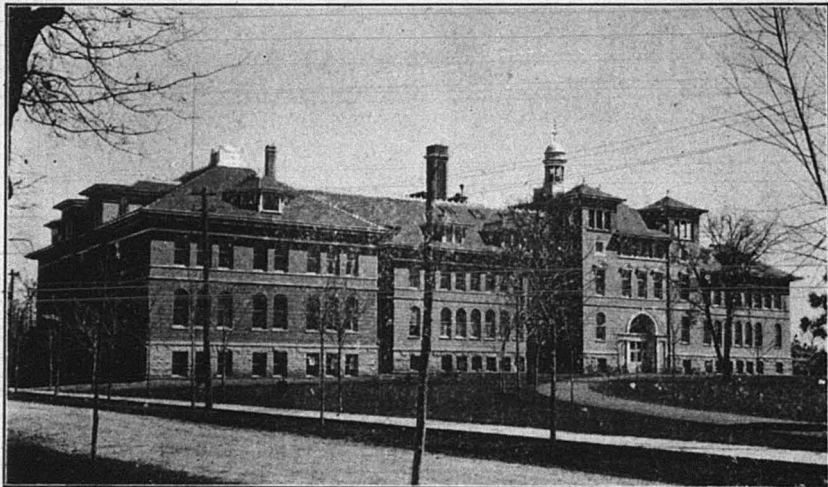
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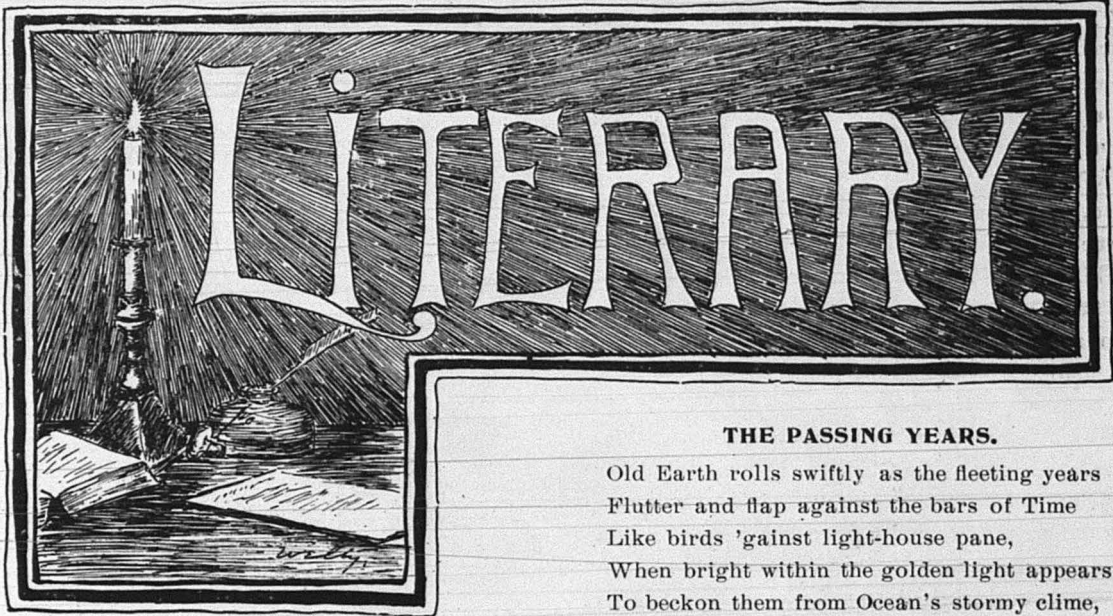
Theron B. Pray,
Stevens Point, Wis.

THE NORMAL POINTER.

Vol. X.

Stevens Point, Wis., January 15, 1904.

No. 4.



MY CHOICE.

Give me the friend with the simple heart,
Free from society's fickle ways,
Free from the tricks of the flatterer's art,
Which many a one enslaves.

He may not have vast wealth or land,
His name may be quite unknown,
Hard and rough his toil-worn hand,
And he may be to crudeness prone ;

But a loyal heart beats within his breast,
By simple faith and trust 'tis furred,
Which possession is far more blest
Than wealth in this lonely world.

This is the one on whom to depend,
Whose friendship you'll never rue ;
This is the one I'll choose for my friend,
For he is the one who'll prove true.

—WELTY

THE PASSING YEARS.

Old Earth rolls swiftly as the fleeting years
Flutter and flap against the bars of Time
Like birds 'gainst light-house pane,
When bright within the golden light appears
To beckon them from Ocean's stormy clime,
From icy blast and rain.

Each year beats out its life and shortens ours,
While we 'mid pain and pleasure stoop and strive
A golden goal to gain :
Nor count the passing years as precious dowers
Until Eternity shall us deprive
And life be void and vain.

J. HOWARD BROWNE.

NEW YEARS AT THE MAJOR'S.

It was New Year's eve, and the Major's mansion was brilliantly lighted, About the large fireplace in one of the roomy old parlors were gathered the family and a few guests. All was warmth and happiness.

During the early part of the evening a thrilling story had been read in which all had been deeply interested. Then all fell into a pleasant conversation about what had been accomplished during the past year, and some wondered what the present year had in store.

The hours were growing toward midnight when Jamie broke in on the conversation, asking if it was not time to go and put on his new stockings? This surprised some of the guests, for they had never heard of this New Year's custom, and asked for an explanation.

"You see, it is like this," answered the mother, "For many years it has been the custom of this house for every one to put on new stockings and go up stairs, and it has always been myself who gave each person the new pair of stockings on New Years."

So, on the invitation of the host, each guest put on new stockings, as did likewise the family.

This being done, all resumed their seats about the fire-place and watched the clock on the mantel. The large mirror above reflected the lights of the chandelier and the happy faces before it.

The hands of the clock were nearing the hour of twelve. After a few moments of breathless waiting, it began to chime the Old Year out and the New Year in. On the first stroke every head was bowed and during the twelve long strokes each offered a little, silent prayer.

When the clock had ceased, the mother ran to the outside door and with a radiant face and happy voice exclaimed as she held it open wide:

"I let the Happy New Year in!"

After this, every one wished each other a very happy and prosperous New Year with a firm clasp of hands.

When the greetings were over all repaired to the dining room where covers were laid and all partook of the bounteous supper.

After supper was over the host led the way into the spacious hall where each took off his shoes, then mounted the winding staircase in his stocking feet. The statue in her marble niche half way up the stairs calmly gazed at the joyous procession as it passed on its way to the tower room far above. For many years it had been a custom in the old house to go up to this room in the south-west tower so that all who tried it might continue to go higher thruout the year.

With wishes that this might prove true all said "A Happy New Year!" and retired.

SENIOR.

(This Bible story was written for use in the fourth and fifth grades.)

THE WISDOM OF KING SOLOMON.

A long time ago there was a king whose name was David. He was a very good king; but he became old, and it was time for him to die. So he called his son, Solomon, who was to be king, to him and said:

"I am very old, and must die. If you do every thing that is right, all will go well with you. Be strong and show yourself a man." Then the old king died and was buried.

One night, after Solomon became king, he had a dream. He thought he saw Jehovah, and Jehovah told him to ask for anything and he would give it to him. Solomon said, "You were good to my father, and he was a good king. Now I am king in his place. But I am not wise. I am like a child, and you have made me king of your people. They are so many that they cannot be counted. So give me wisdom that I can tell what is good for these people and what is bad for them."

Jehovah was pleased with this answer, and said to Solomon, "Because you have asked to be wise, and did not ask for riches, nor to live long, nor to have your enemies killed, I will do as you ask. You shall be wise. And I will give you what you did not ask for—riches and honor. You will be the greatest king that ever lived. And if you are a good king, you will live a long time."

Then Solomon woke up and found that it was a dream.

But Solomon did become very wise, and when his people were in trouble they came to him with it, and he told them what to do.

One day two women came to the king. Each of them had a tiny baby in her arms; but one of the babies was dead, and one was alive.

One of the women said to the king, "We live in the same house, and our babies are almost the same age. Mine is three days older than hers. One night this other woman's child died, and she arose in the night and exchanged mine for hers."

"No," the other woman said. "the living one is my son, and the dead one is yours."

"No," said the first woman, "The dead is your son, and the living one is mine."

Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." And a sword was brought. "Now divide the living child and give half to one and half to the other."

But the real mother of the child begged him not to. She said, "No, do not kill my child. Let the other woman have him."

But the other woman said, "Yes, divide the child, and give half to me and half to her."

The king said, "Do not kill the child, but give him to her who wanted him to live, for she is his mother."

Everybody in the kingdom heard how wisely the king had acted, and said, "Surely, Jehovah has made him very wise."

MARGARET ENGLE.

THE FAIR.

For weeks before December 17, the date set for the Normal Fair, everyone was busy making something for that occasion. Everyone talked about it, everyone was planning for it, everyone expected a glorious time at the Fair. At last the great day came; the Fair opened at two o'clock and continued until a late hour in the evening.

The gymnasium presented a very festive appearance, being decorated with bunting and attractive booths arranged around the four sides. First came the portrait gallery where one could have his picture made, life size at one sitting. Next was the fish pond where each tried his luck, and was always rewarded to his satisfaction. Then came the Domestic Science booth where all kinds of good things to eat could be bought. Then we moved on and saw the pennant booth where could be bought all sizes of purple and gold banners. We strolled on a little farther and came to the German Village where a typical Dutch lunch could be obtained, served by the best natured of natives. Resuming our way we came to the Irish Village, where we were permitted to kiss the Blarney stone and were served to butter-milk by pretty Irish maidens. After this we came to the Japanese room where tea was served by the little Japs.

The Art booth where many fine pictures and mottoes could be purchased for a trifle, was attractive. The Manual Training booth was excellent; here burnt wood and leather, pressed leather,

frames and furniture, baskets, etc., could be bought.

The "Pike" was a grand success. Here we saw the gypsies telling fortunes, Rebecca at the well, "Creation." "Hereafter," and Paris, were all very good.

The candy booth in the center of the room was attractive and did a lively business.

From the noise made by the different criers, from the crowd of good-natured people, from the free way in which all spent their money, one could easily imagine himself at the Pan-American, or the St. Louis Fairs.

This undertaking was not only a perfect success artistically, but a financial success as well; for the committee realized about one hundred eighty dollars to be used for the Oratorical Contest in March.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS ADDED TO THE GENERAL LIBRARY.

Wade—Our Little Cousin Series : German.
Irish.
Jewish.
Turkish.

Hammel—Paper Folding.

Mat Weaving and Slat Weaving.

Dopp—Early Cave Men.

Long—Following the Deer.

Little Brother to the Bear.

McMurray—Special Methods in Primary Reading, in Geography, New edition.
in History " "

Adams—Some Famous American Schools.

Hartland—Science of Fairy Tales.

Williams—Studies in Folk Song and Popular Poetry.

Chopin—Wonder Tales from Wagner.
Story of the Rhinegold.

Clarke—Æneas.

Ulysses.

Holbrook—Book of Nature Myths.

Cornman—Spelling in the Elementhry Schools.

Holbrook—Hiawatha Primer.

Willie—"Pa, was George Washington such a terrible liar?"

Stunson—"Liar! why, my boy, what do you mean?"

Willie—"Well, if he wasn't, why was such a fuss made when he told the truth?" —Ex.

CENSOR

The old year is dead; but we hope that none of our readers wasted any time seeing him die. Strict economy may have been observed, and a great saving of both time and conventionality been effected by doing other things simultaneously—without being observed. Those who saved time in this way can doubtless find ample opportunity to use the same to good advantage during the New Year.

Welcome.

Hail to our youthful 1905!
Farewell to feminine rule!
Men are of the masculine school,
And have rescued Cupid alive.

Ring out the reign of the sigh and the tear!
Ring in the natural order of things!
Ring out the Leap Year with laugh and good cheer,
Welcome the New—returning the *rings*.

Memories.

Happily for us [sometimes unhappily] the "dear dead days" are not beyond recall, but haunt us in memory; altho the Old Year lapses into the New.

Time is an exact accountant. Studying not done or even thought of, rhetorical numbers unprepared, and orations unwritten in 1904 are sure to be down in the wrong column of the 1905 ledger.

The days are growing longer, so that the boys who were becoming studious on gymnasium nights need not fear a single seat and a "fading light."

Whether to resolve or to revolve is a question which confronts young men, now that Leap Year is over.

Those who forgot to do their work last year will not forget that it can't be made up this year. We have heard of various other things, such as excuses being "made up;" but Father Time never accepts an excuse, be it ever so plausible. He simply says, "That is left with your teacher to settle at examination time."

Those who had difficulty in getting home for vacation were doubtless consoled by the thought that they are receiving, absolutely free of charge, tuition in the "make-things-go-and-get-there" course. One thing we know: all of us went; but whether we all got there without looking at a railroad map is a question. Why not get a 30 x 36 inch map and start right off? It is a pleasant diversion to travel in "your county"—and in your imagination. But, alas! most of us never get there. We always take the wrong road, or change at the wrong place, or what is still more unfortunate are in so much of a hurry that we have to walk.

Astronomy.

We have faith to believe and hope that during this year, which has begun so auspiciously, none of our worthy scientific friends will be so unlucky as to see stars—before they fall. There are occasions when such experiences can not be avoided; but we are unalterably opposed to any system of courting danger by seeking to spy out the secret ways of Jupiter and Venus. The side-walks are often slippery and otherwise not what they should be. Besides, we fear that a study of the orbs of night is too apt to be conducive to the formation of nocturnal habits, which are always destructive of habits of study.

The first thing of importance to fall during this year was Port Arthur.

Our hopes, our ideals, and our pride fell or were lowered many times, no doubt, during the past year; but each of us has been re-instated in his citidel for 365 days more. If our only means of defense lies in making resolutions, our fortress is doomed to fall.

The average youth thinks Time is slow; for years alone will bring him fame; the middle-aged man can't help feeling that Father Time is in somewhat of a hurry, for fame has hurried past him; the hoary sage is sure that Time has wings, and that every passing year adds to their number.

ALUMNI

SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE STATE ASSOCIATION.

The fifty-second annual meeting of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association is a thing of the past, and lives only in history, and in the lives of those who were fortunate enough to be present at this greatest of educational treats given to the teachers of our state.

The program was pronounced the best ever given by the Association. It contained some features which were introduced at this meeting for the first time. One of these that will interest Normal graduates was the setting aside of one evening for a re-union of the Alumni of the Normal Schools.

A parlor was assigned to each school, and here pennants and colors were displayed to such an extent as to make it impossible for any one to get into the wrong room.

In the parlor allotted to Stevens Point were refreshments presided over by Miss Fink; and here during the evening about thirty Normalites, loyal followers of the "Purple and Gold," met and renewed their allegiance to their Alma Mater.

These meetings should be made to stand for something and become a regular feature of the Association. They tend to keep up the interest of the Alumni for the school, and furnish an opportunity for new graduates to become acquainted with the old.

Several noted speakers were present at the meetings and gave us a spiritual and moral uplift to carry away with us and strengthen our lagging spirits for the remainder of the year.

The key note was "improvement." We see improvement in all lines, and the times demand a better type of schools than we now have. As to how this was to be brought about there were many different opinions. Some thought the course should be added to, others that it should be cut down, but all were unanimous in thinking that the teacher should receive a larger salary.

A larger salary can not be demanded by the teachers for personal reasons, but only on the claim of value received. The question always asked is, "If we pay more for our teacher will we get better service?" This is a proper question for all school boards to ask; and a proper demand that when they try the experiment it will be answered in the affirmative by the work of the teacher.

The rural schools came in for a large share of the discussion, and a resolution was passed to have a legislative committee appointed to thoroughly investigate the question. Let us hope that it may not be in vain, and that the time will soon come when the country child will have equal educational rights and privileges with his more fortunate city cousin.

Additional Exchanges.

First Farmer—"I see by the paper that some of the students down at Madison painted the town red the other night."

Second Farmer—"Beats all what some of them boys does to earn money." —Ex.

First Small Boy—"Did your father take a seven inch strap to you?"

Second Small Boy—"Oh, no! He took the Board of Education." —ORANGE AND BLACK.

Gentlemen, (to waiter)—"Do you serve lobsters here?"

Waiter—"Yes, sir, we serve anybody. Sit right down." —ROYAL PURPLE.

Silently, one by one, in the infinite note-books of the teachers,

Blossom the neat little yeros, the forget-me-nots of the Seniors. —Ex.

Teacher—"What animal supplies you with food, and leather for your shoes?"

Student—"Father." —NORMAL EXPONENT.

The NORMAL POINTER

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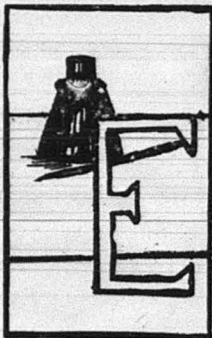
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Address all literary material to the Editor-in-Chief, and all business communications to the Business Manager.



EDITORIAL

Exams will soon be in order.

The third quarter begins Jan. 26.

After all it seemed good to get back to work again.

The Board of Regents was with us Wednesday, Jan. 11, at which time about twenty-five students took the examinations with a view to graduating at the end of the quarter.

The spirit which contributed to the success of the Normal Fair moves us to predict that the same spirit and the same success will attend the efforts of the school to make the Inter-Normal Oratorical Contest, which is to be held here March 17, an event long to be remembered with pleasure by the participants.

On February ninth the local contest is to be held to select an orator to represent the Stevens Point Normal at the greater contest in March. There will be several contestants, and there are many conjectures as to who will win first honors. Whoever wins may be assured of each student's support and encouragement in the later contest, which will be manifested by flashing colors, waving banners, and school yells.

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS.

Students, do you realize the fact that each of you is a member of the Press Association, and that as such you should be vitally interested in its product, THE POINTER? Do you think that your obligation to promote its success ceased when you tendered your subscription? Have you ever contributed anything in the nature of literary material to brighten its pages, or has your forte been that of a carping critic? Have there not been times when you could have contributed a joke, a short poem, or a short story, that would have made glad the heart of some member of the staff, when you did not do so because it would call forth a little extra effort on your part? It is not the purpose of our school journal to exploit the literary merits of any particular student, tho we are pleased to be able to state that there are a few students to whom an appeal for copy is never made in vain. If you feel that you have selfishly shirked your responsibility as well as neglected exercising your literary talents, you will find THE POINTER mail box in its usual place.



ART DEPARTMENT

POSTER ART.

Poster Art has received much attention in this school. Whenever an entertainment, fair, play, or sale is to be given, our local artists arise nobly to the occasion and furnish attractive and striking posters to remind us of the coming event. By means of posters, we advertise all events by hanging these interesting reminders in the most frequented halls and rooms; they are also placed down town in the store windows just before some event which will be of interest to those outside the school. Just before a basketball game, we see striking designs of athletes in all positions, and of all sizes with the appropriate wording, hanging in the halls. Before a treble clef concert, many birds, fair prima donnas, and songsters of all kinds look down upon us from the attractive posters.

Before our recent fair, we had an unusually fine collection of artistic posters. There were posters to advertise the fair in general, and posters to call attention to each separate feature. Thus, we had fair Japanese ladies, Japanese lanterns, cherry blossoms to advertise the Japanese tea house; gypsy tents and dusky fortune tellers to suggest the gypsy camp; and Indian braves, birch bark canoes and war clubs to remind us of basketry; and so on.

A poster, to be artistic, must conform to several

principles. The design, above all, must be simple and of large and sweeping lines, if possible: there must be no small, finicky, detailed work. Especially is this true of the poster decorated with a conventional design. The colors must be bright and attractive, but harmonious and fitting to the design. The design must be appropriate and fitting to the purpose in hand. Thus, if the poster is to advertise a football game, a young athlete in football suit would be more suggestive than a conventional design of wild roses. The design must be unique and original in a sufficient degree to catch the eye and retain the attention of all who look at it long enough to enable the purpose to be perceived. The laws of composition apply as well to posters as to any other art work. The design must be neatly executed; for the best designs may be spoiled by careless and untidy work. Posters play an important part in school life. They are our most successful advertisers. Without them many of our undertakings would not be as successful as they are; because many would not hear of them, otherwise. Posters, also, besides having a practical use as advertisers, are often very decorative and do much to brighten the halls.

We are little Freshies,
And we go to school each day,
We carry home a lot of books,
But we arn't very smart they say.

Some day, we will be Seniors,
And then so much we'll know
That when we travel homeward

No books with us will go.

—Ex.



SECOND QUARTER.

Florence Gardner, Elementary '99, spent a few days with us before the holidays. She has recently obtained a very desirable position in Illinois.

Marion Vosburg (Little Peewee) was on the sick list shortly before vacation.

The following old students were seen about the city during the holidays: Mrs. Berdine Hamilton Sheffield, Mattie Wheelock, Dorothy Packard, Margaret Southwick, Frank Calkins, Wm. Zentner, Harvey Schofield, Clara Moeschler, Mable Sustins.

Miss Nina Coye was visiting at Marshfield during the holidays.

Guy Mallory spent his vacation at Manawa, his former home.

Jeanne Kirwin has returned from Bartlesville, Indian Territory, where she spent Christmas with her sister, Mrs. R. D. Rood.

Howard Welty returned, Tuesday, from Sparta, where he spent the holidays with friends.

Miss Lillian McDirmid, who completed her course this quarter, has accepted a position in the Norwalk schools.

Evadna McNutt, Bessie Oldfield, and Edith LaRue have been unable to resume their studies on account of illness.

Kenneth Pray, '01, has recovered from an operation for appendicitis, and returned to his office in Chicago.

Mrs. Bradford was elected first Vice President of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association, held in Milwaukee, December 27-30.

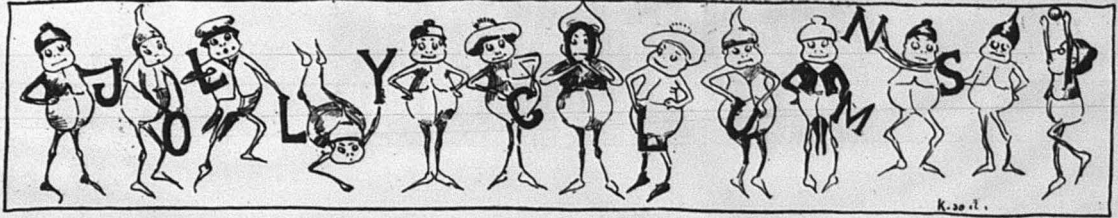
The following old students were with us at the opening of school: Iva Bronson, Sadie Lee, Ellida Moen, Grace Hannah, Melvina Riggs, Martha Malick, Frederick Somers, Ruth Porter, Ina Fenwick, Viola Wood, Edna Schofield, Jessie Wood, Bessie Rawson.

Sidney Torkelson has been on the sick list several times of late. He may have an operation.

Miss Nona Udell has withdrawn from school, and will teach at Kendall, Monroe County,

On the last Tuesday before the holiday recess, we listened with great pleasure to the entertainment given by the Dunbar Quartette. The Quartette was especially well balanced, and the voices blended finely. The selections for the program were excellent, and the rendition was all that could be desired. The work with the bells was new to some and pleasing to all. The bells were very nicely handled and were of excellent tone quality. This, the second number of the Lecture Course, was well received.

The Board of Visitors was with us just before vacation. Superintendent Morris of Wood County, and Mr. Pringle, Principal of the Appleton schools, were present. On Tuesday morning Mr. Pringle gave an interesting talk on the true significance of school life as regards its relation to our life out of school.



Young Lady (to Old Druggist)—“Have you any onion-skin tablets?”

Druggist, looking over his shelves—“No, I guess I haven't. I have Lithia Tablets and Cascarets, tho.”

Professor Hyer, in school management, discussing incentives—“What would prompt me to buy a barrel of apples?”

J-nn-e J-h-s-n—“Because you want them.”

Mr. H-e-r—“Might there be any other reason?”

J-nn-e J-h-s-n—“Because they are cheap.”

Miss F-n-, in music, to Miss S-u-h-o-th—“You held Ray(re) too long. Try again, and be more careful.”

President Pray, in morning exercises—“When you find two heads together, take yours away.”

“How do you feel after the fair?”

“I feel fair.”

“Mr. Spindler has cash.”

“Mr. Gesell has bills.”

“Please get together.”

Mr. T-l-ert, in bacteriology—“What is the opposite of acid?”

Miss McM-l-in—“Sweet.”

Heard in ninth grade composition class—“He was a very pleasant man, and when he smiled he displaced a row of shining white teeth.”

Professor Hyer, in school management—“Silence is the next discussion.”

Cannibal King, to missionary—“I think the best thing that I can do is to eat you.”

Missionary, in earnest protest—“I do not agree with you, sir.”

Cannibal King—“Well, I musn't eat anything that doesn't agree with me.”

Miss M-rp-y, in domestic science kitchen, making ice cream—“This cream will not freeze, Mary; please come and look at it.”

A great many people do not like the chimney sweep's business; but I guess it SOOTS him.

Mr. ————“Don't you play basket ball this year?”

Mr Halv-son—“No, I haven't even seen the net works.”

We wonder why some of the faculty want us to write a small hand. We hope it is not because they want to save ink.

Senior, to Freshman—“I can tell you how much water runs over Niagara to the quart.”

Freshman—“Well, how much?”

Senior—“Why, two pints, of course.”

QUERY—“What did Santa take away from Professor B-c-n.”

Practice Teacher—“Where are the largest diamond fields located?”

Johnny—“Up at the base ball grounds, sir.”

Miss Fink, in music—“What a time we have of the time.”

Freshman, in domestic science kitchen—“I smell something like cabbage burning.”

Senior—“It must be your head.”

Practice Teacher, to noisy pupil—“If you are not a good boy, I'll keep you after school.”

Small Boy—“I don't care; I live in the Normal.”

Professor C-l-ins—“A--a H-d-e, would you know your grandmother if you met her on the street?”

A--a H-d-c—“No, sir, I have never seen her.”

EXCHANGES



"Generally speaking, women are—"

"Yes, they are!"

"Are what?"

"Generally speaking."

—ÆGIS.

The teacher asked, "What is space?"

The trembling Freshman said:

"I cannot think at present,

But I have it in my head." — ÆGIS.

A Happy New Year to all our Exchanges!

Teacher—"What are the three personal pronouns?"

Pupil—"He, she, and it."

Teacher—"Give an example of their use."

Pupil—"Husband, wife, and baby."

—NORMAL ADVANCE.

A man may often lose his head,
And from his wits depart;
While woman may with equal ease,
As often lose her heart.

—ROYAL PURPLE.

Tourist—Can I have a couple of towels?

Landlady—Are you going to stay all summer?

—Ex.

His Pa—"Bobby, I merely punish you to show my love for you."

Bobby—"If I was only bigger, pa, I'd return your love." —Ex.

Just-Come-Over—"What's this?"

Store-keeper—"A trunk."

Just-Come-Over—"What's it for?"

Store-keeper—"To put your clothes in."

Just Come-Over—"Nit! I need them."

—ORANGE AND BLACK, Spokane, Washington.

Inquirer, to Farmer's Son—"Willie, where is your father?"

Willie—"Down there, in the pig pen. You'll know him 'cause he's got a hat on." —Ex.

Miss Reitler, to second drawing class—We will visit the Arts and Crafts to-day, and if you have not the money with you I will pay for you, and you can pay me.

Mr. Risk—Supposing we can't be trusted?

Miss Reitler—I will take the risk.

Peterson—"Well, John, did you have a pleasant vacation?"

Cairnes (club promoter)—"Yes, dad killed the fatted calf, and I gained about seven pounds."

Professor—"What is an inch?"

Student—"Part of a foot."

Professor—So is a toe."

—NORMAL EXPONENT.

The "Normal Pointer" of Stevens Point, is one of our *very best* exchanges.—CARROLL ECHO.

Some Sensible Advice to Students.

1. "Study hard while you study. Put your whole mind into your work, and don't dally."

2. "Begin your studying early in the evening."

3. "Take a little recreation, before retiring, to change the current of thought and to rest your head."

4. "Be in bed before ten o'clock. The sleep thus obtained before midnight is the rest which recuperates the system, giving brightness to the eye and color to the cheek."

5. "Take care of your health. That is first. If you need to do more studying, rise at six in the morning." —THE COLLEGE STANDARD.

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