

Volume VI.

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MAKING MAPLE SYRUP.

BY M. W.

THE sap in the great kettle was bubbling merrily and the buckets and troughs under the maple trees were nearly full of sweet sap. On the edge of the grove a fire had been built and over it hung three kettles, suspended between two sticks on a stout pole.

A chubby dirty-faced little boy was throwing sticks on the fire and his sister, a girl of twelve, stood near by with her head bent a little to one side; she was listening attentively to a bird that was singing in one of the trees not far away. Suddenly she turned to her brother and said, as she swung the long handed dipper back and forth, "When did father say I should dip the sap from the first kettle into the second, Paul?"

"When ma waved the blue cloth out of the window," and as he turned to the window, "she's doing it now; she's doing it now," he added rather excitedly. Sure enough the children could see their mother waving a blue cloth from the upper window.

The little girl with the aid of her brother brought a bucket of fresh sap from under one of the trees and then she dipped out the hot sap with her long handled dipper and put it in the second kettle. The first kettle was re-filled with fresh sap and the children, after fixing the fire, removed some of the buckets and troughs from under the trees and put empty ones in their places. Tired out, they at last sat down to rest but the little girl frowned whenever she happened to glance down at her skirt, which was of bright red flannel. She did not realize what a safeguard it was against the fire and suddenly she blurted out, "Mother acts as though I was about two years old. I don't see what good that old skirt would do me if I would catch on fire any how."

"Mama wants you to wear it so she can see you and know'd your safe. Don't get so hot, Mary, you're apt to set your skirt on fire yourself," and the little tease stuck his head in a hole and sniffed.

It was an idea of the gentle mother's—this red skirt. She could look from the window and see it and it kept her from worrying when she saw it among the trees, for she felt that the children were safe.

The day wore slowly away. The children ate their lunch, replenished the fire and emptied and filled the kettles with the long handled dipper. In the afternoon, Mary had the misfortune to slip and fall while carrying a pail full of sap from one of the trees to the kettle. The contents of the pail flew over her face and hair and there were little pools of it in the detestable red skirt. She burst into tears but laughed in spite of herself when Paul, after surveying her, thrust his fat fists into the pockets of his trousers and said between his bursts of laughter, "Oh, you sap-head."

But she was glad just then to hear her father's cheery voice and see his pleasant smile as he bade her run home and clean up. She was more pleased when he called after her that she need not come back again, and she felt repaid for all her trials and tribbers that night as she sat with a saucer of delicious warm sugar in her lap.

A GLANCE BACKWARD.

The years roll on. Slowly, painfully, experience piled on experience is covering that now half hidden stratum of boyhood life, a life that was full of pleasure and romance, a life which I infinitely long to live again.

I have a new fatherland, one which I believe incomparable to any in the world. I am being evolved as a product of the Public School system. I have marched with Alexander and Napolion, soared to ethereal heights of glory with Demosthenes and Cicero, investigated the almost unsolvable problems of Euclid, compared the philosophy of all the crackbrained men of Christendom and mastered the intricate workings of the mind of that Chinese puzzle, the American child. But this evolutionary intellectual progress in not yet so far advanced that my thoughts will not revert unbidden through the vista of by-gone years.

Gentle Normalites, you who have gone through many a weary grind of school life, because ambition spurred you on, have you not had moments when you wished ambition banished and longed for sweet contentment to softly, soothingly steal into your worried heart, taking you back to old familiar sights, to old familiar times when your thoughts were only in the things that passed before you? Well I have, and such a mood f am in now. Again I stand, a boy of eight years, on the frozen northern Baltic. It is a brilliant Sunday, not a cloud anywhere. Old Sol, on the last half of his daily journey, smiles a benignant farewell on the scene before me. The Baltic with its myriads of glistening crystals smiles back.

I am not the only one here. Hundreds of hardy northern sons are gathered here with their children, with their wives and mothers and sweethearts. All feel a sort of insane joy. The cold, crisp, invigorating air makes us feel it. We have too much life and must send it out in cheers and laughter echoing and re-echoing among the barren rocky isles.

We all have our snowshoes on, not the clumsy American framework, but the long, slender. gracefully tapering ski. We must have them, for the snow on the Baltic is four feet deep.

Now you guess what we are here for. The majority of us are arranged in the shape of a horseshoe. the tips of which touch an island shore and the loop extending more than a hundred yards into the bay. Scores of sledges that have come from many a distant home are drawn up beyond us. My father and I stand well to the front and we get an excellent view of the ski track, which is on the side of a hill which rises sheer out of the frozen bay some three hundred vards. The track is about ten feet wide, level for a little distance at the top, then pitches sharply down at an angle of about forty-five degrees to the level platform nearly half way down. This platform, some fifteen feet in length, is level and ends abruptly in a perpendicular drop of six feet. The track now continues steep as before until within a dozen yards of the bay the incline is reduced one-half, the course becoming level as the bay is reached and ending within the horseshoe.

"Ah! father, now they start," I joyously shout, as I see one of the group of four men come forward at the top of the hill to adjust his shoes.

This is a competitive meet between the four champions of the country. Strong, sturdy, sinewy men they are, the pride of the people. Sailors are they in summer, heroes of many storms; hunters in winter, whom the wolf, the bear and the timid hare consider as their greatest enemies.

The contest has narrowed down to these four men. They have qualified for the final heat. The judges are anxiously watching in a stand half way up the hill opposite the jumping place. Not only must speed, accuracy and muscular effort count but also success must depend upon the gracefulness with which it is accomplished.

"That's Hjalmar of Karleby," shouts one. "Yes. ves. Hjalmar, the iron hearted," shouts another. "Hurrah for Hjalmar," and cheer after cheer greets him as he assumes an erect position for the start. A signal from the judges and down he shoots with the speed of the lightning. Not a voice or murmur is heard in the crowd. He strikes the platform. With a vigorous shove of his mighty limbs he leaps, and graceful as a bird he soars high through the air for nearly a hundred feet down the slope. Ah, how He lands-good heavens, the skis slip; he grand! is thrown upon his back; his journey is ended-no, by some indescribable effort he rights himself on the instant and comes down swifter than a northern blizzard into the horseshoe to be greeted by the cheers of hundreds of people as their favorite. But how will the judges count his mishap?

An interval of commotion, and silence again reigns as the second man appears. The same speed, the same skilful jump, but oh, instead of landing on his skis, he lands on his side and over and over he rolls until the merciful snow stops him many feet farther down and his laughing friends help him out.

The third man also fails to control himself in the air, making a too vigorous jump so as to lose his balance, and after performing an unexplainable somersault, pierces the snow with head forward forty feet from the drop. The great incline and the deep snow saves his bones from accident, but he is not saved the hoots and jeers of poorer skimen than himself.

Now, there is my hero left, Ferdinand Gustaf, of my own village. Well I know him for does not he often visit out fire side, and oh, those horrible lovely stories he always tells us.

There he stands, calmly awaiting the signal of the judges, the biggest, brawniest man of the islands. The signal is given. I clutch my father's hand as I see Ferdinand shooting down the first run. His knee are slightly bent, he leans a little forward, his arms are by his side, now he is on the platforn, he drops his knees still lower, steadies his body, and as he reached the edge he straightens the legs and body as if there were springs inside and leaps into the air with the agility of a tiger. In midair it seems as if he takes another leap for he gives himself a jerk as he draws his knees upward. In an instant he safely lands on his skis three feet beyond Hjalmar's jump and with arms outstretched he finishes his journey down the slope to be greeted by the thousand cheers as the winner and champion.

Thus closed a few hours of joy and excitement in the glad days of long ago.

TO MRS. C-

She moves among us with majestic grace, A smile of wondrous sweetness on her face; Her gaze betokens that her dainty ears Are tuned to catch the music of the spheres. Far. far beyond us is the misty height Of harmony where her soul finds delight, And yet, though with a sense which culture trains

To that degree that every discord pains, To our poor efforts e'er an ear she lends And our souls to an ideal higher bends. Oh, Music! If from thee we gain no more, We learn, at least, thy priestess to adore.

I. P. R.

There are many things in life for which one has a special desire. There are things we love, things we hate and things toward which our feelings are indifferent. Among all these there is one especially noteworthy one of which much might be said and of which often too much is said. It is that which, though its affinity is large, is continually at war with others of its kind. It carries on its war without lead or steel, but uses a weapon sharper than either. It is that which has, since its creation, perplexed the minds of all men, for they can't get along without it, nor can they get along with it.

What is it? The Woman.

FERNHOLTZ.

SUCCESS.

Just give the world a glad "Hello!" You'll profit in the end.

A merry heart and cheerful word, Will always win a friend.

Laugh cheerily as on you go, Look up to greet the day,

- Help brighten up the lives of those You meet along the way.
- Then Fortune will shake hands with you And dower you with grace

And in the strife, of fame and life,

You'll win a foremost place.-A. L. O.

MAY 15, 1901.

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ronize our advertisers.



Our Junior debaters did not trail Oshkosh banners in the dust as we expected—as we had so many reasons for expecting—and yet we do not feel beaten. The decision of the judges hinged upon the interpretation of a single clause in the question, and not upon the merits of the arguments presented by either side. Our team was a strong one and put up a well prepared, logical and brilliant debate, and we feel proud of our debaters, and feel that they deserve all praise and credit, especially considering that the atmosphere in which the arguments were delivered was a hostile one.

The business manager of the Pointer receives a rather intangible and unsatisfactory salary. It consists mainly of complaints, criticisms and the approval of his own inner consciousness for having tried to do his duty. Consider, then, how much you are asking of him when you would make him special delivery man and require him to hunt up your desk and take your Pointer to you. If you really feel that it isn't worth going after, just do something to make it more worth while. You can. You should feel it your duty to help as well as to criticise. Criticism alone does not help, as a rule, for it discourages editors and managers alike, and nufits them for doing their best work.

The air is full of straws showing that commencement time is near at hand. Essays, music, examinations, debates—all point to the close of the year, which is so near. While commencement week is always a happy one, and one to which we look for ward with pleasant anticipations, still it has its suggestions of sadness, even now, especially to those who are finishing courses. The associations and connections of one and two years, and sometimes even longer, are to be broken, and we hardly dare stop to think of the number of people with whom we have endured and enjoyed so much, whom we may never see again No other year can be just like this one, no other friends exactly take the place of friends we now have.

The Seniors-following the precedent established by other Senior classes-have presented to the school a substantial token of their appreciation of the privileges which have been accorded them here. It will also serve to remind their successors of their efforts and achievements, for in a way the gift is significant-even symbolic. It seems fitting that, as the Seniors' spokesman said, the first class of the twentieth century should present to the school the statue of Moses, the greatest man who ever lived; that the standards raised and precedents established by the class of '01 should be represented by the great law-giver, in days to come. The statue also represents what is perhaps their most prominent characteristic as a class-over-zealousness. Still the great poet of human endeavor has said -

"The sin I impute to each frustrate ghost, Is the unlit lamp, and the ungirt loin."

A sin of which the Seniors are not guilty. The same poet has given what might well be their motto—

"'Tis not what man does that exalts him, But what he would do,"

and above all has given a phrase which characterizes them, and which is typified by the statue, while it is significant of the future—

> "Fearless and unperplexed When I wage battle next."



OSHKOSH NOTES.

Mr. Jenkins found two things to admire in Oshkosh, the "rubber sidewalks" and the pretty girls.

Mr. Cate wishes his friends to know that he took dinner at the Athearn, but is not quite as anxious to have it known to how many places he took the lady before he found the hotel.

There is a lurking suspicion in Miss Farrell's mind that Oshkosh Juniors are not to be trusted. For her Oshkosh friend led her past the house where she was entertained three times before she discovered where she was at; and now she is gravely considering whether it would not be profitable to study a guide book before making another journey to a distant city.

Mr. Jenkins—"Say, if I hadn't made a date at home I would have stayed over Sunday. Oshkosh girls are all right.

One never knows how popular his classmates are until he sees them in a strange city surrounded by half a dozen Normal girls.

Mr. Stinson is said to be an authority on the stores of Oshkosh, especially the tailoring establishments.

"Well, I had a good time even if I did lose my gloves and handkerchief and left my purse on the train. Had to borrow some money and a purse to put it in to come home with—from a boy, too! But I never again will have anything to do with getting up a crowd to go anywhere. Such a time! I declare, if people have to go to heaven in tens, I'll never undertake to get a gang together."

Seniors-Are you alive to the fact that we have a committee working on the class play? And did you know that they have worked night after night for weeks on it? They are usually so modest and retirtng about their labors, evidently trying to hide their light under a bushel, but of late we have noticed their worried anxious faces distraught with lines of care, which are unmistakable signs of trouble. Upon a little judicious questioning we found that the committee is divided upon the interpretation of one of the characters, and until this point is settled all progress is stopped. The ladies would have the character all intellect, the young men would have him all heart, and there the problem stands. Suggestions would probably be of no avail, for the plot bids fair to be as intricate as any of Shakespeare's. But, after all, it is not suggestions that they want but a little sympathy. for they are, oh, so tired. Don't tell them we told you to do so but pat them on the back once in a while and inquire about the play.

Murmurs— I have had my say, I have had my day, To stay here longer will worry me; But in vain I sigh, As you pass by, If I'm dead, why don't you bury me?

An Old Notice.

Another Flurmur.—We feel in duty bound to protest against the encroachment of July upon May. The reasons for the protestation are various and manifold. In the first place our geographies taught us that spring in Wisconsin is cold and backward, and we do not like to have established tradition ignored by an erratic bureau. It is a assumption of despotic power that can not be tolerated, and, unless discontinued, will necessitate a change in the regime of weather officials. Secondly, the atmospheric conditions necessary for effective intellectual application are imaginary quantities—likewise for athletic and social manifestations. Thirdly,—but we have already said enough to prove that our protestation is valid. The proper functionaries had best heed.



Margaret Johnson was at home May 4 and 5.

High averages vary inversely as spring advances. The "Ship of Pearl" is now in the hands of the book-maker.

Charley Lange visited at the Normal during the first week of May.

On the board after Mr. Carlson's talk:-"Git yer Gumees at the counter now!"

Mrs. Shannon, wife of Prof. Shannon, visited him and the Normal early in May.

Ellen Jeffers spent Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5, at her home at Sheridan.

Harvey Schofield returned to school on April 22, after having been confined at his home by illness for about two weeks.

Hou-e-orth, looking at a rock he has been trying to break:—"If I had fetched my hammer along I'd have hit it, wouldn't I?"

Prof. Culver and several others are doing some practicing at golf this spring. Prof. Culver is at the head of the golf club.

Orin Wood and Archie Roseberry have both called on their friends here once or twice since their withdrawal at the end of last quarter.

Prof. McCaskill spent a day or two at the University of Chicago early in May. He secured the degree for which he has been working so long.

Rhetoricals on April 19 were furnished by those in the school of Irish and German nationality. The result of such a union of forces on the usual Friday afternoon exercises needs no telling. On April 27 Prof. Collins lectured at the Presbyterian church on "From New York to Manchester." The lecture was highly interesting and was well attended.

On Saturday we learned the pleasing news that Mr. Kline of Milwaukee had won the inter-state oratorical contest, which was held at Warrensburg, Mo. Wisconsin has now won three times in succession.

Andrew L Larkin, of the class of '97, called at the Normal on May 6. He was the representative of this school in the state oratorical contest in 1897. He is now principal of the Third ward High school, Appleton, Wis.

Fred Olsen, who entered school at the beginning of this quarter, withdrew and took charge of the Fifield school during the absence of its regular principal. Mr. Olsen has since returned and taken up his studies again.

At morning exercises recently Prof. Collins gave us a very interesting talk on different styles of architecture and their blending in modern buildings, using the Normal building and other familiar ones to illustrate his talk.

On the evening of April 20, at the Presbyterian church, Prof. Culver gave an interesting lecture on Yellowstone Park. It was listenep to by a fairsized audience. Each one went away feeling that he had had a peep at Nature's choicest treasures.

Prof. Sylvester has been visiting his many friends at the Normal. When he first appeared at the school he was greeted with cheers as he always is. Of course he was on hand at Saturday's baseball game, for he never misses a chance to cheer for a Normal athletic team.

The Geology class has already made several expeditions to surrounding points for the purpose of study. On Saturday, May 4, they studied the moraine topography about Amherst. The most extensive trip will be the one to Wausau and Mosinee, May 17 and 18.

On account of his illness Mr. Schofield was forced to give up his position on the school debating team. At a meeting of the Oratonical association late in April Mr. Mulvihill was chosen to take his place. The contest with the Whitewater team takes place

200

on May 31, and we confidently look to our boys to win a victory from a school that has twice defeated us in debate.

After rhetoricals on April 19 Mr. Edwin Gilbert presented the gift of the class of 1901 to the school. When the veil was drawn aside a cast of Michael Angelo's noblest work, "Moses." was revealed. In a few well chosen words Mr. Gilbert then formally presented it to the school. It is one of the finest pieces of statuary we have in our rapidly growing collection.

Recently at morning exercises Mr. Carlson told the school of the interesting things to be found in the "Gitchie Gumee" of Superior, the official organ of the State Oratorical League. He advertised the paper so well that at the first opportunity everyone fell over everyone else in his efforts to get to the "corner grocery" to get a copy of the "Gitchie Gumee."

Dr. Scott gave the school a very interesting talk on "Anger" one morning recently. He reviewed the symptoms that accompany an exhibition of anger, and showed us that there are two general type forms of the emotion, illustrating each type. He ended by impressing on us the fact that as teachers we would have abundant opportunity for observing "anger," and gave us some suggestions as to how it may be treated in children.

This year's Freshmen class has again demonstrated to all that it is about the liveliest, widest awake aggregation of youngsters that ever bord the above appellation. On the evening of April 26 they met in the gymnasium (with a few members of the faculty there to keep Freshmen exuberance within proper bounds, we understand) and proceeded to make make merry. Report has it that the very jolliest time of the whole year was had by those present.

Mauy good Juniors and others accompanied the Junior debating team to Oshkosh on April 26. Although they did not get as much opportunity for cheering as they hoped for, on account of the adverse decision of the judges, still they had a good time in and about our neighbor institution. Those who accompanied the debaters were: Pres. Pray, Prof. Sanford and wife, the Misses Clara Heidgen, Ruby Farrell, Laura Henderson, Althea Young, Edith Root, Edna Sprague and Lottie Deyoe, and Messrs. Chas. Meade, Merl M. Ames, Chas. McLees, Clarke Jenkins, Howard Cate and J. Warren Stinson.

On May 3 the rhetorical exercises savored of trees and birds and all that goes to make up the season of spring. The exercises were very interesting and had in them a deep lesson for all of us who are going out to take charge of schools with the expectation of leaving them in better condition than we found them. One very marked way in which this can be done is by beautifying the school grounds and the exercises gave us many suggestions along this line. The children of the training department furnished a good share of the program.

On Friday night, May 10, occurred a long-heralded event, the Treble Clef Concert. But the long heralding had roused the expectations of all none too high, for the concert was more even than had been anticipated. There was a "full house" when at 8:15 the score and more of young ladies who were to make the old Assembly room ring with melody, took their places on the platform. The evening's program furnished one of the finest musical treats of the year, notwithstanding the fact that we have also heard the Whitney-Mockridge Concert company and others of equal note during the year. Those who assisted the Treble Clef Club were Miss Bessie Lou Daggett, soprano, Miss Anna Rothman, pianist, and the S. P. Mandolin club. Mrs. Clement, deserves great credit for carrying thru so successful a performance.

The "May-day" rhetoricals on May 10 were the most elaborate and carefully prepared we have had for a long time. "Robin Hood" by men of the school and "William Tell" by the grammar boys were both fine bits of dramatic work and brought out some clever acting, which was greatly enjoyed by all present. The first part of the program consisted of short selections from Ruskin and others, and short talks on the May-day customs of other lands. These talks were highly instructive. At the close eight young ladies, after a beautiful scarf dance, escorted to her throne on the rostrum the May Queen. Miss Ruth Wadleigh, who had been chosen by the school for that most dignified position. But, altho young, she ascended to her throne and received the homage of her subjects with a grace and dignity such as becomes a queen of the May.



The baseball boys have elected Ben Moran as captain for the baseball team and expect soon to have a team ready for business. The interest shown in the game is considerable. Every evening finds upwards of twenty out trying for a position on the team. To all appearances we ought to put forth a winning team this year. The boys practice faithfully and there is good material to be drawn from. We hope to see our fondest hopes realized before long.

To such an extent has baseball become popular that each class in school has its baseball team, The feeling between the classes runs quite high and each hopes to come out the winning team. May 27 the Elementaries and Freshmen teams played the first game of the season. 'The "Freshies" put up a good game, but were simply outplayed by their opponents. They were unable to hit the ball except for a few runs and although their fielding was good their team work was poor enough to make up for it The "Elements" on the other hand far outdid their opponents in batting and fielding. They have an exceptionally strong team and bid fair to give the other classes some trouble before the season closes. The crowd in attendance was small, but what it lacked in size it made up in enthusiasm. Both teams were cheered with equal impartiality, and a general good will prevailed throughout the game. The score was 7 to 19.

The Senior and Junior classes are preparing for a game which is to to take place inside of one or two weeks. Last year these classes played a game in which the class of 1901 was victorious by a very close margin. The Juniors feel that they have an old score to wipe out and we expect to see an interesting game. Track athletics do not seem to have materialized this year. Early in the spring the association voted to support a track team as well as a baseball team and elected a manager. Practice was begun, but it seems that we were unable to secure any meets with nearby colleges, and so the idea of a track team had to be given up, as the association did not feel itself capable of arranging meets with any distant school. We feel sorry not to be able to put forth a track team, but on the other hand we realize that the association is financially unable to bring a team any distance.

The Tennis association is in the best condition, financially, it has been for years. The interest in the game has taken hold of the school and as a result the membership has increased to twice its original number. The courts are in fine condition and every available hour is filled. The tournament will commence within a week, and we look for some interesting games.

In the May number of the Forum there appears a treatise on the "Negative Side of Athletics," by Arlo Bates. It is a well-written article, in which he shows that there is an opposite side to our school athletics, and he attributes the growing lack of the power of concentration and intellectual manliness in a large measure to athletics. He deplores that the college ideal is rather physical than scholarly and believes that we pay too much attention to what is gained and not enough to what is lost in modern athletics. He daws his conclusions mostly from college athletics, but they most probably apply as well to the lower schools. Those who believe there is only one side to athletics, would do well to read this article.

202



It is reported on good authority that Will L. Smith, '99. of Eau Claire, is to be married in June to a young lady who lives at Neillsville. Will is the first young man of that renowned class to venture on the sea of matrimony, and his own class as well as the entire alumni unite in sending heartiest congratulations to the groom-to-be.

You would all be glad to do something for your Alma Mater, wouldn't you? No doubt you have all been annoyed more than once during your stay here when, having found "just a dandy reference" in the Poole's index, you have found that the particular volume you have wished to see was not in the library. Our Century and Review of Reviews sets are complete. The Harpers, Arena. Popular Science and Atlantic are the ones we are most anxious to fill out. If you know of anyone who has an attic full of old magazines just waiting to be given away, write to Miss Simpson, and she will send you a list of just the numbers we want, together with directions for shipping. INA FENWICK.

When this number of the Pointer reaches you, dear alumni, there will be but five weeks left before our commencement and reunion. Have you made your plans to be here? We hope, at this meeting, to see more graduates back than have ever been here before, that we may renew the pleasant acquaintances made in school days, and also have the opportunity of meeting the members of the class of '01, each one a bright and shining light and a worthy addition to our ranks.

In general the plan is as follows: The preliminary business meeting will be held at 4:30 or 5:00 Thursday afternoon. This hour is set because last year when the business meeting was set for six and the banquet for six thirty a good many things got cold and a large number of people were very hungry before we were finally ready to partake of the feast which was not "of reason." (Some people have to talk so much. you know.) The dinner will be served in the gymnasium and after the usual toasts the evening will be devoted to a general good time.

Last year, it will be remembered, we sang songs, told stories, danced and actually forgot for a whole evening that we were dignified pedagogs.

ALUMNI REMEMBER

That the reunion Thursday evening is not the only attraction offered you. There is a very entertaining program arranged for the entire Commencement week.

Monday evening is the annual Forum-Athenaeum debate, which promises to be as interesting as when we were "in it:" Tuesday evening is in the hands of the Seniors, who this year offer, as a part of the class exercises, a play written by some of their own members, and Wednesday is the general reception given by the Faculty.

We have also heard a rumor that the classs of '99 are planning to meet informally. Are any of the others planning to do the same?

Alumni, why would it not be well, at the annual business meeting to select some one of your number whose duty it shall be to see that the Alumni page of the Pointer is filled each month? This would make the page distinctively your own, and it would be more satisfactorily conducted were the person in charge an Alumnus, and so thoroughly in sympathy with the other Alumni. Then it would relieve the editor-in-chief of the necessity of begging contributions from strangers and of filling the page with an incongruous assortment of articles. collected and arranged after vainly looking for an expected contribution. The Alumni page might be turned over to one class of graduates at a time, and so have each class represented at least once during the year. This would necessitate having some one in charge, preferably an Alumnus. Think about this before you come back in June.-Editorin-Chief.

203



Some of our exchanges are very poorly bound. When handled they fall apart.

The April number of The Student is dedicated to the ladies. It resembles a cook book.

The Normal Red Letter is a good paper.

One of our latest exchanges is the Comet from West Pittston, Pa. It is an attractive appearing paper.

We are told of the "Supremacy of American Achievements" in the Spectrum.

The April numbers of the High School. Chat contain two interesting stories, "The American Boy" and "The American Girl." It seems wise that the literary departments of school publications contain stories of this kind or at least sketches and descriptions which have some relation to the writer's experience. We notice in one high school paper two long articles upon different phases of the "Philippine Question." That high school students can profitably and intelligently handle these questions does not seem probable. Are there no subjects with which these students are familiar-subjects within the range of their experience upon which they may exercise their literary ability? It seems unwise for us to invade the realm of political literature. If one wishes for information upon political questions connected with the Philippine Islands he will not read the opinions of a school boy.

The Lake Breeze calls its exchange column the "honorable mention" column. The editor has a list of some lenght under this title.

"Weary Willie" is a clever little production in the Tacoma Fortnightly.

"Nay, touch me not," Eliza cried. When I would fain embrace her;

"I vow I'll give an awful scream

Unless you keep away, sir."

"What, has your love," I madly asked, "As quick as this abated?"

"Of course not, silly," she replied,

"But I've been vaccinated."-Ex.

The Spring Breeze from Mansfield, Ohio, contains a great deal of well written matter. We admire these sensible papers that contain something besides "jokes and joshes."

"Grace S.-A new shirt waist.

Lizzie B.-A new pair of rubbers.

Mr. B. N. B.-A new pair of tan shoes."

The above is a sample of the kind of "stuff" we find in some papers. Why such senseless things find a place in a paper is hard to understand.

"Some of our exchanges would be much better, in our opinion, if they would not mix their 'ads' with the literary matter. The place for the advertisements is on the first or last pages of the paper."— The Academy Zephyr.

"What kind of property did Carrie Nation smash?"

"That's easy. Joint estates."-Sphinx.

There are two kinds of jokes—a professor's and a good one—Ex.

The Spartan as usual presents a good appearance.

The editors of the Ryan Clarion think that their work upon the paper for the year should give them credit in rhetorical work.

In the March number of Progress is a story entitled "A Peach Dumpling." This story is well written and deserves praise.

When e'er the pesky summer fly My classic brow assails,

I wish that I could swish my hair Like horses swish their tails.

The Eau Claire high school has a secret society which is called the "Senate" We do not understand why a literary society should be a secret society.





Department

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

Optional work in the Intermediate department has begun again, and a new line of work has been taken up. Nearly all the pupils are interested in gardening. A group of five boys has taken lessons in fertilization of the soil, has started a garden, and has planted raddishes, onions, beets, carrots and other vegetables. They are now looking forward to a "spread" before school closes in June.

Two of the girls are making a window garden. They are studying the germination of seeds, are keeping notes of the growth from day t > day, and are also using different soils to see in which kind the plants will grow the most quickly. About ten varieties of flowers have been planted, pansies, nasturtiums, marigolds, etc. The children are now interested in studying, and in making trips to the florists, to find out of what use glass is in the growth of plants. A few of the other girls who have a garden have been testing the temperature of the soil, and will transplant their plants to an outdoor garden as soon as they are above ground.

An archery club has been formed by some of the boys. They have been studying the archery of ancient days down to the present, and are now making their target, bows and arrows. Another group is making a camping outfit; their minnow nets have been completed and they are now making camping stools. A group of girls is knitting shawls and hemstitching handkerchiefs, so that more of the pupils are now engaged in optional work than at any time since the work began.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

The children of the Primary department who wished to do, so wrote a story about the visitors that they had in the room for three days, and the following is the "Prize Story":

THE CHICKENS AT SCHOOL.

April 18.

"Wilbur Somers brought some chickens to school.

The Birds thought they were very nice; the Workers also. When Wilbur brought them he put them in the room off from our room, and when I came to school, I heard the rooster crow, and then I went in to see what was the matter, and there I found a rooster and a hen, bantams, and every once in a while the rooster would crow, and all of us would laugh, but after a while we got used to it. They came in the afternoon, and at night we went home. The next day the banty hen laid a nest egg. We all thought that that egg was just fine, and we said that the hen would lay enough eggs so we could have some to eat, but one would not be enough. Every once in a while they would cackle, and she would act as though she was going to lay an egg. The next day she laid another egg and when it was in the cage before they took it out one of the little girls, whose name was Louise, said: 'Perhaps the hen will lay enough so that we can have a party this afternoon and have eggs.' Today the hen laid another egg, and now we have three nice white eggs.

"Every time the teacher begins to talk, the rooster begins to crow." BERNICE BENTLEY.

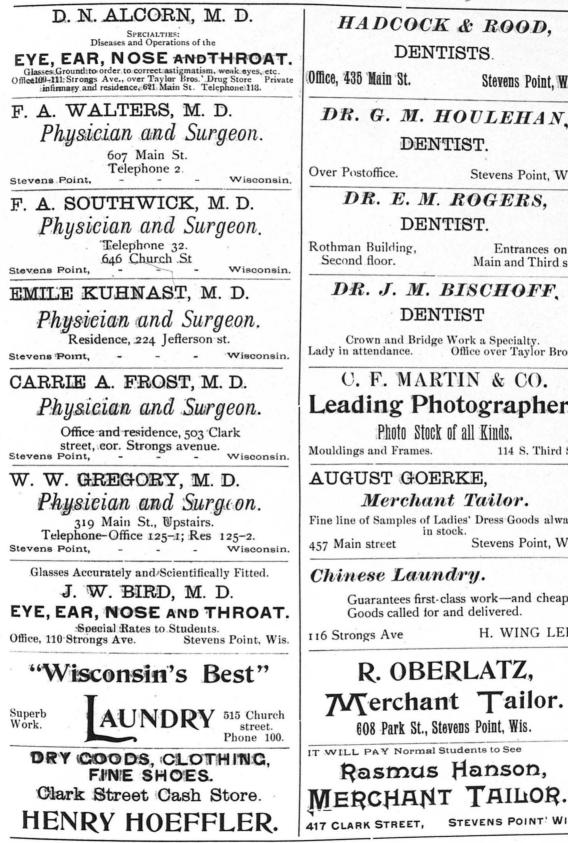
The prize awarded to Bernice, was the right to choose the games to be played at the next luncheon.

The "Birds" are still very much interested in their cooking, and expect to have another sale—popcorn and candy—in about two weeks.

The children of the Intermediate, Primary and Grammar departments took a prominent part in the Arbor Day program in the Assembly room May 3rd. All the music, except the choruses by the school, was furnished by them, and also a number of recitations.

Three of the boys gave a talk on their "observation of birds." and several of the birds' calls that had been learned, were given. We cannot help but admire the little people who can appear before a room full of people and take part in the exerceises with such ease.





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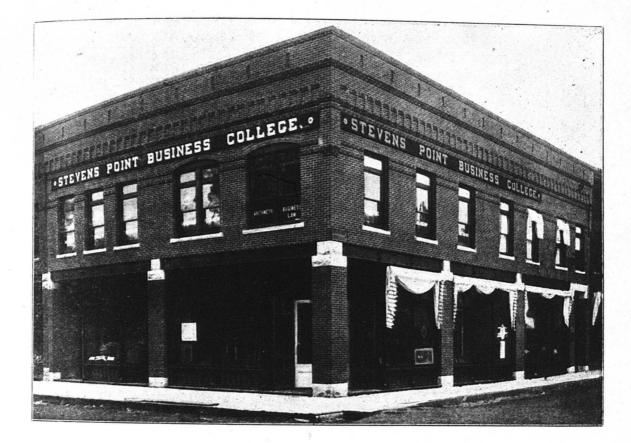
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